Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 250 | **MONDAY** OCTOBER 19, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

CPA 'tentatively' commits to shipyard salvage project. **PAGE 5**

US House panel sets hearing to extend visa waiver program. **PAGE 6**

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

POLL RESULTS

Have you donated to victims of the typhoon Ondoy in the Philippines and the tsunamis in Samoa and American Samoa?

Yes-32

No-67

Sunday, October 18, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of October 16, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Plane Crash

A propeller-driven plane crashed and burst into flames in the Philippines, killing at least four people.

WORLD...Page 18

Monster Fest

Fans dressed as vampires, zombies, monsters and mummies descended on the Greek Theatre for "Scream 2009."

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

WITH OVER A MONTH LEFT BEFORE FEDERALIZATION

NMI Immigration down to just 38

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From 72 employees in December, the CNMI Division of Immigration is down to just 38 staff members, as the agency sheds more personnel in the run-up to Nov. 28, when federalization of local immigration takes effect.

See IMMIGRATION on Page 4

Samoa tsunamis obliterate some coral, spare others

By AUDREY McAVOY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HONOLULU (AP)—Scientists surveying American Samoa's coral reefs say Sept. 29's tsunami obliterated some corals and damaged others to the point that they may not recover.

Researchers say more assessments will be needed to get a full sense of how the disaster affected coral in the U.S. territory. But in at least one area, the damage was so severe, and the affected area already in such bad shape before the tsunamis, that the coral may never return.

There's an additional threat the sur-

See SAMOA on Page 4

AP

This Oct. 4, 2009 photo shows a large chunk of coral that was ripped up from the reef and washed ashore in front the village of Leone in American Samoa.

Jim Bell is missing—again

Aerial, sea search and rescue operations ongoing

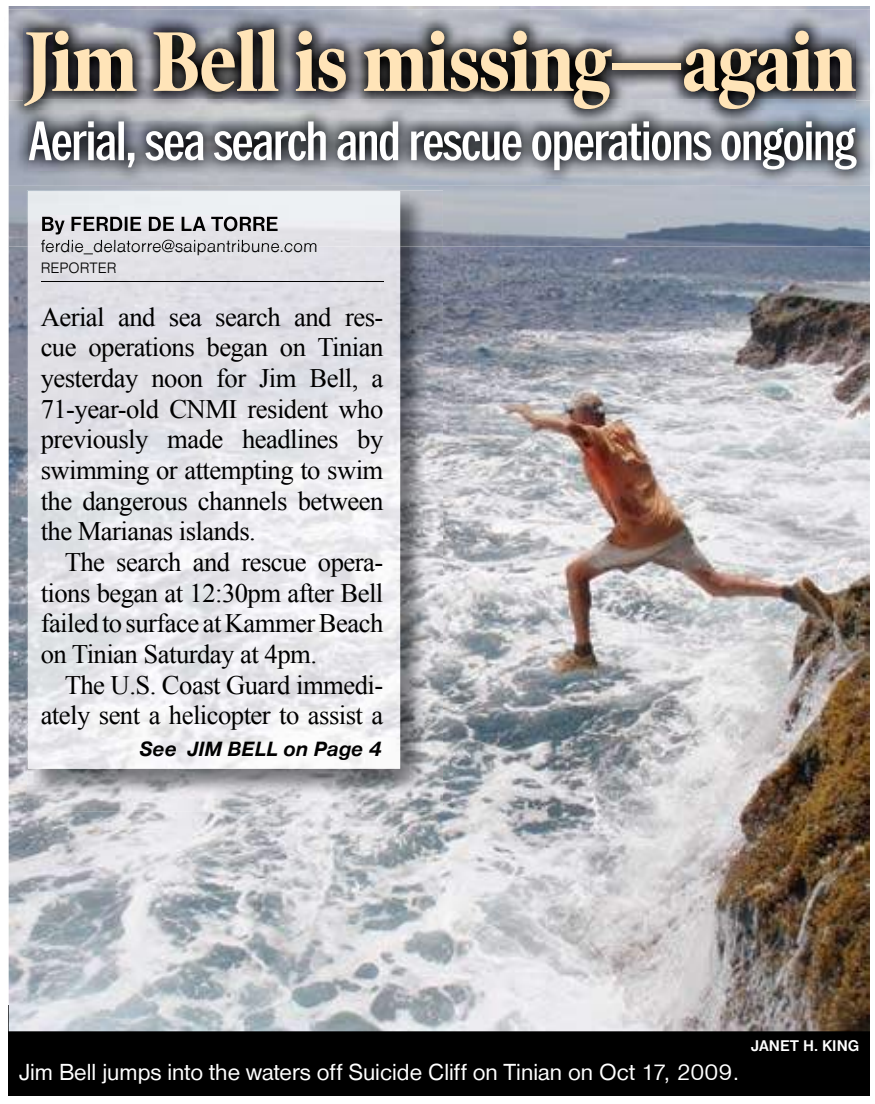
By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Aerial and sea search and rescue operations began on Tinian yesterday noon for Jim Bell, a 71-year-old CNMI resident who previously made headlines by swimming or attempting to swim the dangerous channels between the Marianas islands.

The search and rescue operations began at 12:30pm after Bell failed to surface at Kammer Beach on Tinian Saturday at 4pm.

The U.S. Coast Guard immediately sent a helicopter to assist a

See JIM BELL on Page 4



JANET H. KING

Jim Bell jumps into the waters off Suicide Cliff on Tinian on Oct 17, 2009.

NMI gets $28M of $44M in ARRA grant

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Assistant Secretary of Education Gabriella Gomez released the first $28 million of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds for the Commonwealth. Her staff at the Department of Education joined PSS Commissioner Rita Sablan, Tim Thornburg, Jackie Quitugua, and Christine T. Masga, Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and Legislative Assistant for education Julia Martin for the presentation.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI received Friday the initial $28 million of a $44 million State Fiscal Stabilization Fund grant, which is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding, but millions of the expected federal money had already been spent on local programs in Fiscal Year 2009.

See ARRA on Page 4

LIFE'S SHORT TYPE FAST

INTRODUCING MOTOROLA CLUTCH i465

THE NEW FULL QWERTY KEYBOARD

iCONNECT www.iconnectsaipan.com

Local

$118M in CHC billings uncollected

Opening of $22M hemodialysis center still in limbo

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center has over $118 million in uncollected billings for the services it rendered to patients, health officials said in a 65-page response to the House Health, Education and Welfare Committee's over 230 questions.

At the same time, the opening of the $22 million hemodialysis wing is still uncertain because Medicare would not certify the facility due to a lack of a medical director and other medical professionals, design flaws, a non-U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved reverse osmosis system, and problematic water treatment system, among other things.

Of the $118,045,422 in unpaid billings, over $75.715 million or some 63 percent are uncollected from the government-run Group Health and Life Insurance Program, Hawaii Pacific Medical Referrals, and Medicaid.

Individual patients also owe CHC over $15.828 million.

Another $10.751 million is due from patients but these debts have already been referred to either the Office of the Attorney General or collections agency for collection.

CHC also has over $7.3 million in uncollected billing from employers.

The remaining $4.555 million is owed by Medicare and other payers.

"We are diligently reviewing each account and are appropriately referring them for collections. Any outstanding due from Medicare and commercial payers are mostly paid within 15-30 days," the Department of Public Health said.

During Friday's continuation of the House HEW Committee's oversight hearing on DPH, health officials said the figures provided change constantly as payments are collected and additional bills generated.

Acting Health Secretary Esther Muna, during the hearing, said DPH will provide the committee with figures on the amount the department deems "uncollectible," as requested by Rep. Justo Quitugua (D-Saipan).

Reducing the gap

Rep. Ed Salas (R-Saipan), during Friday's hearing, asked whether it still takes at least a year before CHC bills a patient discharged from the hospital or who sought treatment at the hospital.

In response, Muna said CHC has reduced the gap between actual service and billing for such service, and this is the same response to the written question posed by the committee to DPH.

"Both management and staff are working diligently to improve [billing and collections process]. They have reduced the gap of all insurance claims to six months and a project is already underway to also reduce the gap on the self-pay claims," DPH said.

During the hearing on Friday, health officials also said that 20 doctors left DPH in 2008, and 29 so far in 2009.

Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez is expected to return today, DPH said.

House HEW Committee chair Rep. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) may call in Villagomez for the continuation of the oversight hearing as early as Tuesday.

The oversight hearing has focused on issues such as mismanagement, doctor shortage, inadequate procurement practices, and poor records and billing systems at DPH. Health officials, however, said the oversight hearing may only be electioneering, given the proximity to the Nov. 7 election and the lack of such hearings in previous years and months.

Fund nixes closed-door negotiations with administration

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees has junked the Fitial administration's proposal to continue their negotiations behind closed doors, preferring to make the discussions open to the public.

The trustees made the decision during a meeting Thursday, in reaction to an e-mail message sent by the administration's negotiating team leader, Tony Muna.

"Mr. Muna was concerned about having an open discussion [on the matter]," Fund legal counsel Viola Alepuyo told the board.

Since the court judgment had directed the Fund to report all details of the negotiation, Alepuyo said there's no sense in keeping the meetings private.

She pointed out that the court judgment did not require keeping negotiations between the parties confidential.

As long as members of the public do not interfere in the discussion, the Fitial administration has nothing to worry about, said board chair Sixto Igisomar.

He pointed out that team members designated by the board are the only ones allowed to take part in the discussion.

The trustees also agreed that whatever the team discusses with the administration must be reported to the trustees for approval of specific actions and recommendations.

Saipan Tribune learned that the two teams were scheduled to meet last Friday.

The Superior Court had ruled in June that the central government owes the Fund over $231 million in employer's contribution and must pay the amount, based on what is agreed upon by the two parties.

The court also determined that the administration must pay a 16 percent contribution rate and remit all taxes due the Fund to reduce its obligation to the agency.

Fund administrator Mark Aguon told the board that the Executive Branch has been remitting its obligations to the Fund since last month.

However, Alepuyo pointed out that the 16 percent is not enough…to reduce the drawdown," she told the board, adding that what the Fund is seeking is a payment on top of the mandated 16 percent actuarial rate and taxes.

The Executive Branch has yet to make a concrete offer on how it intends to pay the $231 million it owes the Fund.

The administration's negotiating panel earlier suggested that the Fund stop withdrawing money from its investments once the portfolio reaches $370 million. In case the agency needs money for operation and other expenses, the administration will provide the money for these obligations as part of its "repayment" plan. However, no figures have been offered.

CNMI's cheapest Price!
All Souls Day Sale!!!
Pre-arrange flowers available in:
* Vase * Baskets *
* Corona * Ground spray *
Flowers, Materials and Accessories for Flower arrangement also available in bundles or per piece.
We accept special orders!
New Arrivals of Silk and Designer Flowers
KEVIN'S CORPORATION
dba Kevin's Department Store / Wholesale and Retail Store
PO Box 502592 CK Saipan, MP 96950 (Beside the Post Office)
Tel.: (670) 234-8866

Angel Kindergarten and Child Care Center
is now accepting children under Child Care Program.
• Your child will learn Korean language while he/she is in our center.
• We also accept after school care.
For more information, please call 288-1004

INDEPENDENT
PLEASE Vote #2
CAMACHO
PAUL WILLIAM DE LEON GUERRERO
for SENATOR
"BOBBING"
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT PAUL DLG. CAMACHO FOR SENATOR
VELMA PALACIOS-CAMACHO, TREASURER
www.pauldlgcamacho.com

Draculicious Dinner
AWAITS YOU IN THE MAGELLAN
OCTOBER 31, 2009
FROM 6:30 PM TO 9 PM
FREE ENTRANCE TO THE CREEPIEST CEMETERY
FOR DINERS WHO DARE GO THROUGH BEGINNING AT 7 PM
OTHERS PAY $5 TO ENTER
BEHOLD A RAGING SHOW OF GHOULS, GOBLINS
AND MONSTERS IN ELECTRIFYING PRODUCTION NUMBERS
THE BEST IN COSTUME WINS A SPECIAL PRIZE
ALL HAPPENING IN CHARLEY'S STARTING AT 8:45PM
FREE FOR ALL TO WATCH
STAY THE NIGHT AT PIC FOR $99 INCLUDING TAX
(DOUBLE OCCUPANCY; CHILDREN UNDER 12 STAY FREE)
AND RECEIVE 25% DISCOUNT ON DINNER
The Magellan
PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB
For reservations, call 237-5132 or 237-5170.
The Magellan extends 25% discount to all local residents.
www.picresorts.com

SAMOA

From Page 1

viving coral may suffer secondary damage weeks after the tsunamis if waves drag heavy debris from people's wave-wrecked homes—like refrigerators, tin roofs and other objects—across the reefs. Mounds of household goods dislodged by the giant waves are still sitting in the water off tsunami-torn villages.

Corals, which are colonies formed by small, fragile animals called polyps, provide vital habitats for fish, sea slugs, shrimp, sea worms and many other marine species that find food and take shelter among the reefs. This makes measuring the extent of the tsunami-inflicted damage important for understanding the disaster's effect on the broader environment.

Tsunamis generated by an 8.3-magnitude earthquake killed at least 32 people in American Samoa. About 150 were killed in nearby Samoa and Tonga.

A team led by Douglas Fenner, a coral reef monitoring ecologist with American Samoa's Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, has surveyed about 20 sites around the territory so far. The condition of the coral they examined ranged from untouched to destroyed. Several spots lost 20 to 30 percent of their existing coral.

Fenner also found unblemished reef next to corals that were wiped out. That was the case near Leone, a town where at least 10 people died and dozens of homes were destroyed. He first saw that delicate corals to the left of the village were in perfect shape.

"Then I got right in front of the village and man, the coral had just been broken to bits," Fenner said in a telephone interview from the territory's capital, Pago Pago.

Paul Brown, marine ecologist with the National Park Service, said the reef off Faga'alu—an urbanized area near downtown Pago Pago—was in poor shape even before the tsunamis hit. Years of pollution and sediment in the area's runoff had led to poor water quality offshore, deprived corals of the sunlight they needed to grow and smothered the reef.

Only about 15 to 20 percent of the reef had living coral before Sept. 29. Then the waves tore 70 percent of the remaining away.

"The reef looks like a nuclear bomb went off. It was pretty catastrophic damage," said Brown. "When you have that level of impact, it will be decades, if at all, that that area recovers."

In contrast, damaged reefs that were healthy before the disaster should bounce back in three to four years, leaving no scars.

American Samoa's corals were generally fairly healthy before the tsunami, particularly compared to reefs in the Caribbean or those off the Hawaiian island of Oahu. Still, Brown said they weren't as pristine as corals in Kiribati, a small Pacific island nation, or the Line Islands, which are tiny Pacific atolls controlled by Kiribati and the U.S.

Fenner said he was optimistic for a recovery, given the relative health of the coral. He also noted corals have evolved to cope with tsunamis and other natural disasters.

"The reefs have learned to live with it," Fenner said. "So as long as we humans are not chronically damaging the reef and putting heavy stresses on it, hopefully it will recover well."

Coral reefs surround large parts of American Samoa's islands, which sit in tropical waters about 2,500 miles southwest of Hawaii. The islands, which are home to about 65,000 people and cover roughly the same land area as Washington, D.C., host 2 percent of the coral under U.S. jurisdiction.

ARRA

From Page 1

The $28 million award came right after Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, and other members of the Fitial administration held a news briefing on Capital Hill Thursday announcing that the U.S. Department of Education was in the "final stages" of awarding the grant to the CNMI.

Ada, the Office of the Governor, the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College worked on the funding application since April.

In Washington, D.C. on Friday (Saturday Saipan time), Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), CNMI Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan and other local education officials met with U.S. Education Assistant Secretary Gabriella Gomez for the release of $28,359,191 in SFSF grant to the Commonwealth.

The CNMI should receive the final $16 million of stabilization funds by the end of the year.

The money received is part of the total $44,433,595 in SFSF grant that the CNMI is expected to receive. Altogether, the grant is the largest ever for the Commonwealth.

Press secretary Charles Reyes quoted Ada yesterday as saying that the administration will get the $8 million upfront, and it is the education funding that comes in phases.

In a statement yesterday, Delegate Sablan said "this is the largest, single grant of federal funds the Northern Mariana Islands has ever received and the largest formula grant, distributed automatically, to the Northern Marianas as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act."

Who gets what?

Over 81 percent or $36 million of the expected $44.4 million will go to education, particularly PSS and NMC.

PSS will be getting some $33 million, while NMC will get some $3.9 million.

Fernandez said NMC will use some $1.6 million to fund 20 new and existing positions at the college; some $600,000 for information technology; and the rest, for accreditation work and professional development.

"The CNMI should be proud that we are the first insular area to receive this ARRA money," Fernandez told *Saipan Tribune*.

The other 18 percent or some $8 million of the $44 million will go to the Office of the Governor.

Ada, in an interview on Thursday, said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial allotted another $2 million of the $8 million for the Office of the Governor to PSS to cover for funding shortfall resulting from a reduction in Compact Impact funding.

Some $5.5 million will go to the Department of Public Health, mainly on medical referral costs.

The remaining $500,000 will go to the Department of Public Safety.

"While this fund provides all governors the flexibility to stabilize central government services unique to their jurisdictions, I felt it was prudent to put that money toward the critical services our community needs," said Fitial.

Fitial, in a statement, said the funding will help PSS on infrastructure improvements, curriculum delivery, the hiring of 64 new positions, and maintaining 44 other existing positions.

Sablan, also in a statement, said high school students in public and private schools will be provided laptops with the grant money.

Both Sablan and Fitial thanked each other and federal and local officials who made the ARRA grant funding for the CNMI possible—from Rep. George Miller and U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan, to Ada, PSS, NMC, and the departments of Commerce and Finance.

"I look forward to seeing all the great things that the people of the Northern Mariana Islands can do with this money, and I am eager to see how we can work together to invest in our future," Sablan said.

The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund

The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund is a unique program under ARRA. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Education provides states and territorial governors with the award, which are subsequently sub-awarded to educational institutions.

The CNMI, particularly the Office of the Governor, PSS and NMC, applied for the SFSF grant in April 2009 along with other states.

However, the U.S. DOE advised the CNMI to wait until the U.S. DOE could consult with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs on the management of funds for insular areas. But it was not determined how that money was to be split among each jurisdiction.

Total ARRA spending

Besides the SFSF grant funding, the CNMI has also received other ARRA money but the Commonwealth is at the bottom of the list when it comes to spending federal stimulus funding based on the federal tracking system, www.recovery.gov.

Ada said the CNMI's Executive Branch has so far spent $1.394 million in ARRA money, but recovery.gov reports only $827,893 spent by the islands as of Oct. 7.

The $1.394 million spent so far does not include those spent by independent agencies like PSS, NMC and the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Ada said given the CNMI's history of misspending federal money, the local ARRA office is trying to comply with all federal and local rules and laws. "We will be penalized more if we misspend the money," he had said.

Among the misperceptions he cited: CNMI ARRA office is holding on to money for no reason; the CNMI is slow in spending; CNMI ARRA office is trying to blame other agencies; and CNMI ARRA is not posting opportunities as required.

The federal tracking system said the CNMI has so far spent only 1.79 percent or $827,893 of the $46,139,523 made available to the islands.

Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have each spent between $5 million and $862 million.

Other Pacific islands like Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia each spent between $1 million and $3.6 million as of Oct. 7.

JIM BELL

From Page 1

Commonwealth Ports Authority vessel, a civilian boat, and the Saipan Department of Public Safety in the search.

Bell jumped off near Suicide Cliff on Tinian between 11am and 12pm on Saturday. His goal was to swim around the corner of the island and surface at Kammer Beach later that day at 4pm.

DPS Tinian director Jose King told *Saipan Tribune* they began the search and rescue operations after learning yesterday morning that Bell failed to show up at Kammer Beach.

"At 1800 hours tonight [6pm] if we don't find him, then we will continue the search again tomorrow," King said.

King said the Coast Guard helicopter led the aerial search, while divers on board rescue boats held a surface search along Bell's route.

"This guy loves to swim. This is not the first time we have experienced this. Before, he was out for over 18 hours from the time we found him," King said.

Tinian lawyer Janet King said she accompanied Bell to his jump off point because she had long ago offered to take pictures of him in the water.

"He came by Saturday to tell me he was going out that morning. I brought by camera along and followed him to where Wella and Pete Mendiola's farm near Suicide Cliff is located," said Janet King, who took photographs of the jump.

The lawyer said Bell seemed happy as she was shooting photos of him.

"That Saturday morning he was excited about his swim and came to my house after coming from DPS and before going to the cliffs," she said.

Janet King said Bell seemed very calm while facing the waves.

"I remember standing at the edge of the rock shelf with the waves pounding against the edge. I was trying to get his shot and also trying not to fall into the ocean. But feelings of danger weren't on my mind at the time, just this exuding calm from him that reached me," she said.

Janet King said Bell calmly stared at the water for a good five minutes, and then jumped.

"I caught the jump. It was a good jump, so alive and daring and free—that what I was thinking. My old camera caught it and I was amazed," she said.

The lawyer said that when he hit the water, Bell swam away from the cliffs and never looked back.

In October 2008, the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, and Tinian DPS rescuers searched 15 hours for Bell, who had been reported missing by friends.

The search and rescue response cost $25,000. This prompted the Coast Guard to issue a reminder to swimmers to take all possible precautions when taking to water to ensure their safety.

The Coast Guard found that the swimmer had decided to swim across the Saipan-Tinian Channel without filing a float plan, any support crew, or any reasonable precautions. When the rescuers located him at dawn, Bell was still swimming toward Tinian after being swept out into the open ocean during the night.

In July 1981, Bell marked his retirement from the U.S. Navy by swimming alone from Saipan to Tinian. The effort took him 12 hours.

IMMIGRATION

From Page 1

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the Division of Immigration currently has a total of 38 employees on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, with three more personnel resigning in the last two months.

To address the manpower shortage, Buckingham said they are using all available staff resources, including extensive use of overtime.

"This means people are serving the Commonwealth through extra duty and hard hours even though they face an uncertain future," he said.

Buckingham said they are encouraging their staff to remain at their positions.

To help provide support, he said they are sharing information about available jobs.

Buckingham said they have worked with the Office of Personnel Management and have asked representatives of the Retirement Fund to provide individual information to Immigration employees so they can plan for their future.

When asked about the biggest problem besetting local Immigration officers, Buckingham replied: Uncertainty and fear.

"People are doing challenging jobs and don't know what tomorrow will bring. We have worked on the protocol and are doing our best with each employee but this is a hard time," Buckingham said. "We hope the public appreciates the service being provided by these individuals during this most difficult period."

Most of the Immigration personnel who resigned went to the U.S. mainland or Guam, while others decided to stay on the islands.

Immigration Director Melvin Grey earlier stated that their office has been understaffed since the start, but their numbers just keep going down.

Grey said the morale of local Immigration staff is down because they are scheduled to be out of the jobs when federalization takes effect.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection had already posted job announcements for Customs and Border Protection Officer Field Operations, listing the CNMI as a duty location.

Thirty-seven CNMI Immigration employees were reportedly automatically eliminated from consideration because of the 37-year-old age cutoff.

Because of such hiring qualification criteria, less than 20 of local immigration officers qualified.

The Legislature had passed a joint resolution asking the U.S. Department Homeland Security to ensure that local Immigration employees and U.S. citizens in the CNMI be given priority when hiring in the CNMI.

CPA 'tentatively' commits to shipyard salvage project

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board approved on Friday a tentative commitment to negotiate a temporary lease agreement with Worldwide Salvage Saipan, which wants to build a shipyard salvage operation at the Port of Saipan.

In his letter to the company's chief executive officer and president James L. McCollum, CPA board chair Jose Lifoifoi said the board acknowledges the firm's interest in commercial development at the port site.

Worldwide Salvage wants a long-term lease agreement with CPA for a shipyard salvage business, which aims to bring in old military ships for dismantling.

Before the company can secure a contract with the U.S. military, it needs proof of having secured an agreement for a site for the business.

"I understand that as part of your company's plan you require this tentative commitment for purposes of your efforts to secure a contract with the federal Maritime Administration Division, MIRAD. You may present this letter for the limited purpose of showing the CPA's commitment to engage and negotiate into a lease agreement subject to terms," Lifoifoi said.

He emphasized, however, that CPA at present can only make a tentative and preliminary commitment for the project.

This does not constitute any commitment by CPA except for the preliminary understanding that the agency will consider a lease agreement with the company, he added.

Lifoifoi admitted that the challenges for the company are substantial but CPA has its priority and compelling interest to protect its substantial investment in developing the Port of Saipan.

The company's vice president for administration, David Sablan, was present during Friday's CPA board special meeting.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that CPA's letter of commitment would be transmitted to its California office so it could begin securing the contract with the federal government.

CPA's Lifoifoi said they would require clearance and resolution of all issues regarding the company's proposed business, including prohibition of the storage or placement of discarded or cut-up ship hulls or other metals outside the designated area. The company also needs to assure that any disposal of any metal on any CNMI property is prohibited.

CPA, before it approves a formal lease agreement, will require the establishment of a facility master plan as required by the U.S. Coast Guard under the Maritime Transportation and Security Act.

A pre-approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for any incinerator or other toxic substance treating facility will also be among the requirements.

NMC highlights achievements in midterm report

In a midterm report it submitted to the accrediting commission on Friday, Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez highlighted the college's achievement in completing its second cycle of program review.

The NMC board of regents met Thursday and voted to accept the midterm report that was due for submission to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and the Senior Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities.

The report provides details about the progress that NMC has made on its self-study report submitted in 2006.

"Everyone at the college gained from having to undergo the deep, reflective second cycle of program review," said Fernandez in a statement.

She said the program review is helping the college shift toward a growth culture of data-driven, evidence-based decision making for continuous quality improvement.

"We have made great strides toward achieving proficiency and sustainability in institutional effectiveness, student learning programs and services, resources, and leadership and governance," added Fernandez.

The midterm report also contains information about how NMC has resolved team and commission recommendations for improvement.

The ACCJC reaffirmed NMC's accreditation in June.

Pursuant to ACCJC requirements, all institutions are required to submit periodic reports to the commission. The midterm report, which the college is required to submit, is normally due in the third year following the evaluation team visit.

The commission, at its next regularly scheduled meeting in January, will review the report. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

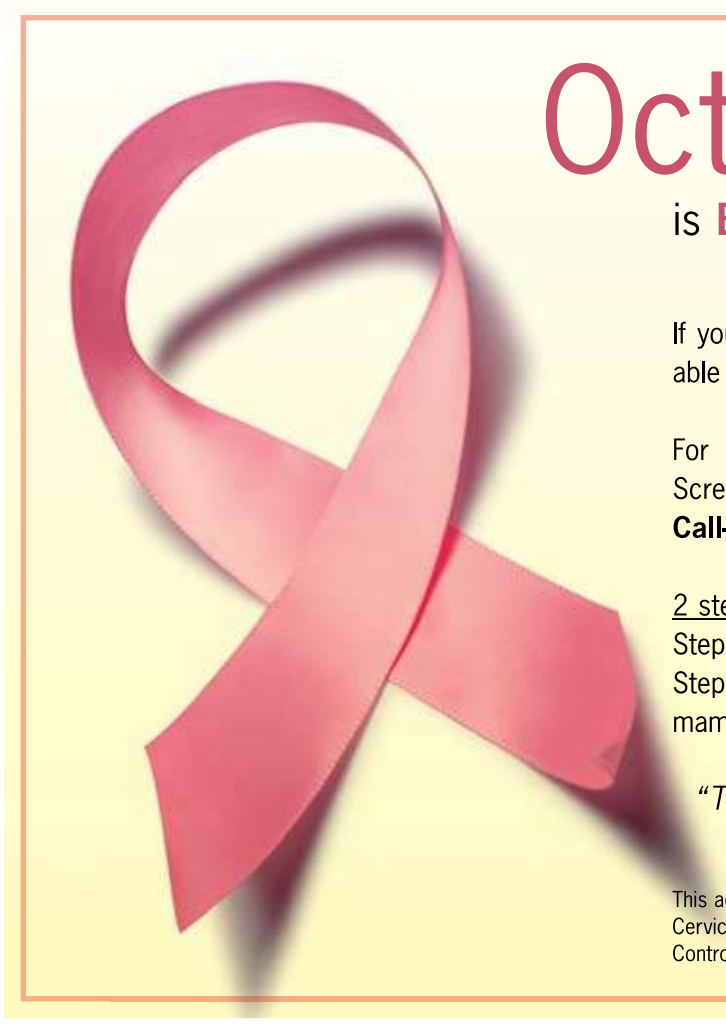
COUNTRY HOUSE RESTAURANT
RESTAURANT Moby Dick Fresh Sea Foods & Steak
Now will be at Street Market every Thursdays
Come and try our new delicious, tender, juicy Hamburger Sandwiches for only $3.00
We offer 3 selections

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
Beach Road Clinic next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan 235-2030
Kagman Clinic Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video 256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

DISCONNECTION NOTICE
IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on October 20th, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before October 20th.
THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.
* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than October 20th. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.
If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.
IT&E Life in Motion

DOORBUSTER DAYS
OCTOBER 19 - 23
PERSONAL LOAN
6.99% APR[1]
Save with one of the lowest rates in years. Pay for your next large purchase or pay off existing debt with our low-interest PayAnyDay® Personal Loan.
First Hawaiian Bank's 1,000,000 OnePass Miles SWEEPSTAKES[2]
20 Winners of 50,000 OnePass Miles
YOU COULD BE ONE OF 20 LUCKY PEOPLE TO WIN 50,000 CONTINENTAL AIRLINES ONEPASS® MILES! Apply for a PayAnyDay Loan and you'll be automatically entered to win.
Stop by any First Hawaiian Bank branch for more information or to apply.
First Hawaiian Bank
We say Yes
fhb.com Member FDIC
Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax: (670) 235-3094
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan LauLau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936
[1] Annual Percentage Rate 6.99% is for personal loans effective from 10/19/09 to 10/23/09. Annual Percentage Rate is based on a 3-year term with monthly payments of $153.14 for $5,000 loan amount which includes $40 document preparation fee. Other rates and terms available. Subject to credit approval. Not for Hawaii, Business or Real Estate Loans.
[2] Guam and Saipan residents and branches only. Must have a Continental Airlines OnePass account to receive OnePass Miles. No purchase necessary. See branch for official rules.

US House panel sets hearing to extend visa waiver program



October

is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

If you are a woman over 40 years old you may be able to get a MAMMOGRAM at no cost to you!

For the month of October, the Breast and Cervical Screening Program (BCSP) will have the **Mammogram Call-Ins** activity.

2 steps to getting your mammogram:
Step 1. Get a Clinical Breast Exam done (CBE)
Step 2. Call the **BCSP** office at **236-8731/27** to get a mammogram appointment.

"The key to mammography is that you get it regularly – once is not enough."

This ad was brought to you by the Department of Public Health's Breast and Cervical Screening Program with 100% funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife will hold an Oct. 22 hearing on a bill extending the CNMI's visitor's entry program to allow Russian and Chinese tourists into the islands for another year after the Nov. 28, 2009, federal takeover of local immigration.

Under the law that imposes federalization in the CNMI, tourists from China and Russia will be required to secure U.S. visas to be able to enter the islands.

Currently, the CNMI allows these tourists to enter under its own visitor's entry program.

H.R. 3770 was introduced by Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-Gu), who is also the chair of the subcommittee.

Bordallo's bill will require the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to administer the CNMI's visitor's entry program until November 2010.

The hearing is set for Thursday, Oct. 22, at 10am, in Washington, D.C.

Howard Willens, special counsel for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said that witnesses required to testify at the hearing might only be representatives from the U.S. Department of the Interior and DHS.

"Bordallo's bill is receiving quite rapid consideration in Congress," Willens said in a news briefing on Thursday.

Willens said the Fitial administration supports Bordallo's bill and looks forward to its passage.

He also noted that Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan was not one of the seven co-sponsors of Bordallo's bill, which is an "important" measure for the CNMI.

During the weekend, Sablan issued his latest e-newsletter, which contains a write up on the Thursday hearing on Bordallo's HR 3770.

"I am very appreciative of Chairwoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo's decision to hold this hearing. With her backing, the bill should move quickly to the full committee and on to the House floor for approval," said Sablan.

He also said that Bordallo's HR 3770 is similar to his own bill, H.R. 3568, extending the CNMI visitor's entry program after Nov. 28, 2009.

"Both bills are good for business and the economy. Ms. Bordallo's bill, however, does nothing to help the thousands of people whose families may be disrupted by the immigration turnover. My bill does address the plight of immediate relatives of U.S. acitizens and CNMI permanent residents who have made our islands their home since 1981. And I will continue to be focused, not only on the economy, but also on humanitarian concerns," said Sablan.

Cases filed drop in 9-year period

The number of cases filed in the Superior Court has continued to drop in the last nine years.

According to the latest judiciary statistics, from 15,589 total cases filed in 2000, only 4,728 total cases were filed in 2008—a 69.6 percent decrease.

From 2000 to 2003, the downward trend continued when 8,971 cases were filed. In 2004, the cases jumped a bit to 10,515 and went down again the following year at 8,076.

From 8,250 in 2006, total cases dropped to 5,630 in 2007.

In the nine-year period (2000 to 2008), traffic cases were the highest at 60,987, followed by 11,319 in smalls claims and 6,075 in family cases. There were 5,415 civil cases and 3,448 criminal cases.

From 2007 to 2008, except for criminal cases, all cases—traffic, civil, small claims, and family—went down.

The significant decrease in case filings was attributed to the decrease of the population due to the deteriorating economy. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Ristorante Italiano
CAPRICCIOSA

Asian Leaves Caesar Salad

Calamari Nero (Squid and Onion Spaghetti in Squid Ink Tomato Sauce)

Spicy Grilled Chicken with Rosemary

Garlic Toast

Pumpkin Pie

$39.99 */set*
with complimentary two mugs of MGD Draft Beer or Pepsi!! (25% discount value!!)

pepsi · Miller Genuine Draft

Happy Halloween in Paradise

From October 1 to 31, 2009 (31 days)

Homemade Pumpkin Pie Special Offer!
"Buy 3 Whole Pies, Get 1 Free!!" $77.97 ONLY!
(50% discount value. $3.25/slice!)
1 whole pumpkin pie only **$25.99** (30% discount value, $4.33/slice!)
1 slice pumpkin pie only **$4.99** (20% discount value!)

Free Wi-Fi Available

Opens at 11:00 am - 10:30 pm Comete Center 1F, Garapan, next to Tony Roma's • Tel.: 233-9194 or 233-9196

TONY ROMA'S®
RIBS · SEAFOOD · STEAKS

Cup Soup of the Day

Cup Roma's Dinner Salad

St. Louis Ribs & 10 oz Smoked Tri-Tip Steak Combo with two side items

Cup Chocolate Brownie Sundae

$32.99 */set*
with complimentary two mug of MGD Draft Beer or Pepsi!! (20% discount value!!)

pepsi · Miller Genuine Draft

Happy Halloween in Paradise

From October 1 to 31, 2009
(31 days)

Free Wi-Fi Available

1st floor, Comete Center, Garapan • Tel. 233-9193 or 233-9195 • Open from 11:00 am to 10:30 pm

CNMI ARRA Public Forum
American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

SAIPAN
When: October 20th 2009 (TUESDAY)
Where: Multi-Purpose Center
Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm

TINIAN
When: October 21st 2009 (WEDNESDAY)
Where: Tinian Public Library
Time: 12:00 - 2:00pm

ROTA
When: October 22nd 2009 (THURSDAY)
Where: Rota Round House
Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm

RECOVERY.GOV

WE ENCOURAGE THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO ATTEND!

Any questions/concerns please contact Alfreda Camacho at (670) 664-3015

This advertisement was made possible through a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Ex-convict allegedly slaps fellow detainee

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Robbery suspect Jeffrey Indalecio Celis allegedly slapped an inmate at the Department of Corrections to teach him how to show respect.

U.S. Probation Officer Melinda N. Brunson stated in her report that on Tuesday she learned from DOC that Celis assaulted another inmate while in custody.

DOC reports said the incident happened on Saturday, Oct. 10, according to Brunson in her report filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Celis allegedly got mad when the detainee interrupted Celis' conversation with a DOC officer.

Brunson said the defendant stated he was trying to teach the detainee a lesson on respect.

The U.S. government moved to revoke the supervised release of Celis after the U.S. Probation found him in violation of some conditions, including continued use of methamphetamine or "ice" and marijuana.

The revocation hearing was set last Thursday, Oct. 15, but the federal court continued the hearing for Oct. 26 at 1:30pm based on the prosecution's request for continuance.

Following the slapping incident, DOC determined that Celis violated DOC rules and regulations by committing an assault and battery offense, Brunson said.

Brunson said the DOC sanctioned Celis with 30 days of solitary confinement and telephone restrictions.

Celis was found concealing 3.25 grams of marijuana in his underwear when the U.S. Marshal agents arrested him last week in Garapan.

In her other report filed in federal court, Brunson stated that Celis also threatened to stab someone if he is not taken to a federal prison.

The federal court issued the warrant for Celis' arrest after the U.S. government moved to revoke his supervised release for violating conditions such as allegedly using methamphetamine or "ice" and marijuana, and committing another criminal offense.

The Superior Court also issued an arrest warrant for the defendant in connection with the robbery at Prince Hotel in Sadog Tasi.

The court remanded the defendant to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Celis had been convicted of three cases of burglary, and one case of robbery from 1995 to 1997.

In September 1999, the federal court sentenced Celis to 120 months and placed him on three years of supervised release for possessing a firearm.

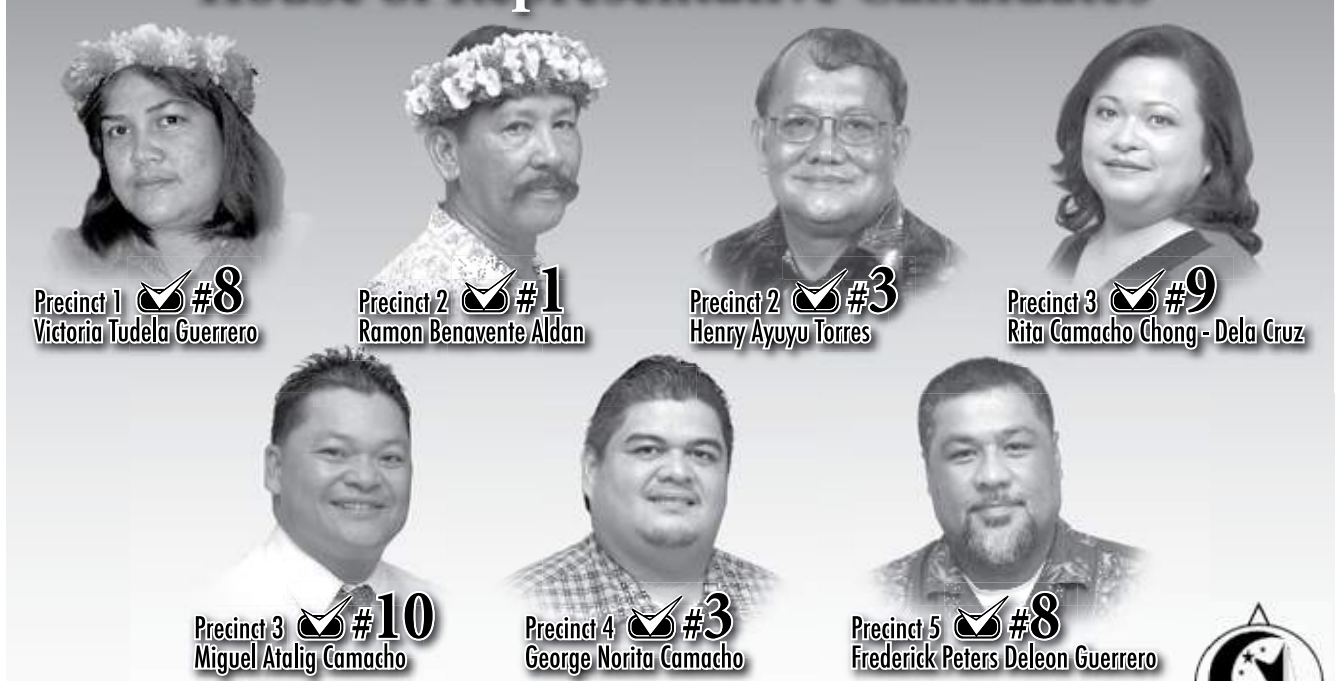
On Aug. 5, 2009, the defendant allegedly attacked a man with a large knife in Koblerville. He was arrested, but he later posted bail. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

VOTER APPRECIATION RALLY

Sunday, October 25, 2009 • 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Civic Center, Susupe, Saipan

#4 JUAN PAN TENORIO GUERRERO & JOSEPH NORITA CAMACHO

House of Representative Candidates



Precinct 1 #8 Victoria Tudela Guerrero
Precinct 2 #1 Ramon Benavente Aldan
Precinct 2 #3 Henry Ayuyu Torres
Precinct 3 #9 Rita Camacho Chong - Dela Cruz
Precinct 3 #10 Miguel Atalig Camacho
Precinct 4 #3 George Norita Camacho
Precinct 5 #8 Frederick Peters Deleon Guerrero

For more details call (670) 483-1728 / 233-1729 or visit www.juanpan.jncamacho.com

EXPERIENCE • HARD WORK • SOLUTIONS

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Juan Pan T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 19, 1999

CDA eyes $30M loan

In another attempt to stir the island's slumping economy, the Commonwealth Development Authority says it plans to borrow up to $30 million from Bank of Guam to fast-track the implementation of Capital Improvement Projects. The $30 million interim financing was decided by the CDA board to help stimulate the economy with the construction of various infrastructure projects listed under the 702 CIP Plan while waiting for the $60 million bond float, according to Board Chairman Juan S. Tenorio. "In less than 15 days, the money will be released by the bank to get the projects going. We are doing this because we don't want to lose the federal funds which have remained untapped due to lack of funds," Tenorio said.

Teno tosses Lang's request to AGO

The Attorney General's Office is expected to hand down today its final decision regarding the assistance sought by former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio for his legal battle against the $12.4 million penalty awarded to a taxpayers' lawsuit more than two years ago. "The AG will be providing him the administration's position either (Monday or today)," Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio told reporters yesterday, without elaborating. He assured, however, the media will be given a copy of the decision once it is forwarded to the former governor. The report followed a meeting last Friday between the governor and his predecessor at the Office of the Governor in Capitol Hills attended by government lawyers.

Oct. 19, 2000

Ex-officials authorized Cabrera's expenditures

Former CNMI officials appeared to have authorized expenditures of thousands of dollars in public funds that were alleged to have taken improperly by ex-Finance Secretary Antonio R. Cabrera. This was the point argued by defense lawyer Joey Arriola during the continuation of his trial for corruption charges in the U.S. District Court yesterday. Federal prosecutors propped up their case against Mr. Cabrera with several documents presented to the jury and testimonies heard in the courtroom, including from the chief aide of then-Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

OFWs take advantage of plunging peso

Filipino workers in the Northern Marianas are taking advantage of their greenback's stronger buying power as they intensify payment of outstanding loans with a Philippine government-controlled housing corporation. PAG-IBIG Fund administrator on Saipan Lynell F. Fulgencio disclosed that a good number of Filipino workers have been advancing payments since the value of Philippine currency started plunging to beyond 45 pesos against the United states dollar, Mr. Fulgencio explained that Filipinos are practically paying 50 percent less of their monthly amortization due to the peso's devaluation against the dollar from a little over 25 pesos in 1996 to close to 50 pesos now.

Oct. 19, 2001

Review on Bellas' retention bid now impossible

Outgoing Superior Court Associate Judge Timothy Bellas yesterday disclosed that the election ballots in his 1999 retention bid have been destroyed, eliminating any chance of a recount. This cropped up following Bellas' request to the Commonwealth Election Commission to review his lost retention bid in 1999, amid a change in the interpretation of vote-counting rules for this year's retention bid of Associate Judge Virginia Sablan-Onerheim. Bellas said that, when he asked the Commission to review the ballots in his 1999 retention bid, Commission Chair Miguel M. Sablan told him that the ballots were destroyed sometime last year. "Ballots that were cast by the voters in the 1999 retention election are no longer available as they were destroyed in the summer of 2000," Sablan said. The letter, dated October 10, did not explain why the ballots were destroyed.

Unified stand vs. violence sought

The Family Violence Task Force urged the community to participate in the 7th annual Candlelight Vigil at the American Memorial Park tonight, October 19. Task Force Director Laura Flores said the 6pm procession will start at the Duty Free Shop, followed by a program featuring students in song numbers, art displays, and dramatic performances. Tonight's program culminates the observance of the Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Task Force urged school administrations, civic organizations, businesses, families, and all community members to take a stand against all forms of violence.

hey.You!

rock your Vote!
make it Count!

election day

October 19, 2009

CNMI YOUTH CONGRESS

For more information, please contact the CNMI Youth Congress Office at 664-8845.

Candidates for the Twelfth CNMI Youth Congress

Schools (Public and Private):

Grace Christian Academy:
Bianca Kabua Blanco

Marianas Baptist Academy:
Yong Hwa Choi

Mount Carmel School:
RyAnne Veronica Palacios Camacho

Northern Marianas Academy:
Sunny Frank L. Aldan

Northern Marianas College:
Amanda Rae Johnson
Victoria P. Aldan

Saipan International School:
Annie Cotero Camacho

Kagman High School:
Jesselyn Rachel Boyer Dris
Ashley B. Hofschneider

Marianas High School:
Antonette C. Cabrera
Alana May Leon Guerrero
Yuri E. Romolor
Kristen Nicole Salas

Rota High School:
Masako Maria K. Atalig

Saipan Southern High School:
Shelane Dela Cruz Borja
Yoshihiro Garcia Yagi

Tinian High School:
Marisa Dosalua Untalan

Election Precincts:

Precinct I:
Carl John T. Tabucol

Precinct II:
Adeleyah Charlotte Mojica
Adrian John Palacios Murig Jr.

Precinct III:
Seong Bin Lee
Monique Boyer Sablan
Kayleena Fitial Seman

Precinct IV:
Joseph Donovan Yamada

Precinct V:
Jessamin C. Santos

Precinct VI:
Raena Pangelinan Cing
Laigh Andrew Santos Enriquez

Precinct VII:
Michael Ray SN. Cruz
SueAnn I. Waguk

Polling sites:

Precinct Election at Public Schools **(8 a.m. – 3 p.m.)**

Saipan Southern High School Cafeteria (Precinct 1 & 5)
Marianas High School Cafeteria (P1; P2; P3; P4 & P5)
Kagman High School Cafeteria (P1; P4; P5)
Tinian Jr./Sr. High School (Precinct 6)
Rota High School (Precinct 7)

Multi Purpose Center (P1; P2; P3; P4 & P5) **8:00am – 5:00pm**

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 250

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Second chance on Afghanistan

One factor in President Obama's decision to rethink the strategy he adopted for Afghanistan was the fraud-riddled fiasco that was Afghanistan's presidential election. The United States and its allies were counting on the August vote to lend new legitimacy to the Afghan government and complement the military strategy of defeating the Taliban by winning over the population. Instead ballot-box stuffing on behalf of the incumbent, Hamid Karzai, threatened to further weaken a regime known for corruption and inefficiency.

That government and the administration have a chance to begin to remedy the problem. This weekend, Afghanistan's U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission is expected to deliver its report; Afghanistan's ambassador to the United States said Thursday that it will probably reduce Karzai's vote to less than 50 percent of the total. That would mandate a runoff between Karzai and his principal challenger, Abdullah Abdullah. It could also prompt them to reach a power-sharing agreement.

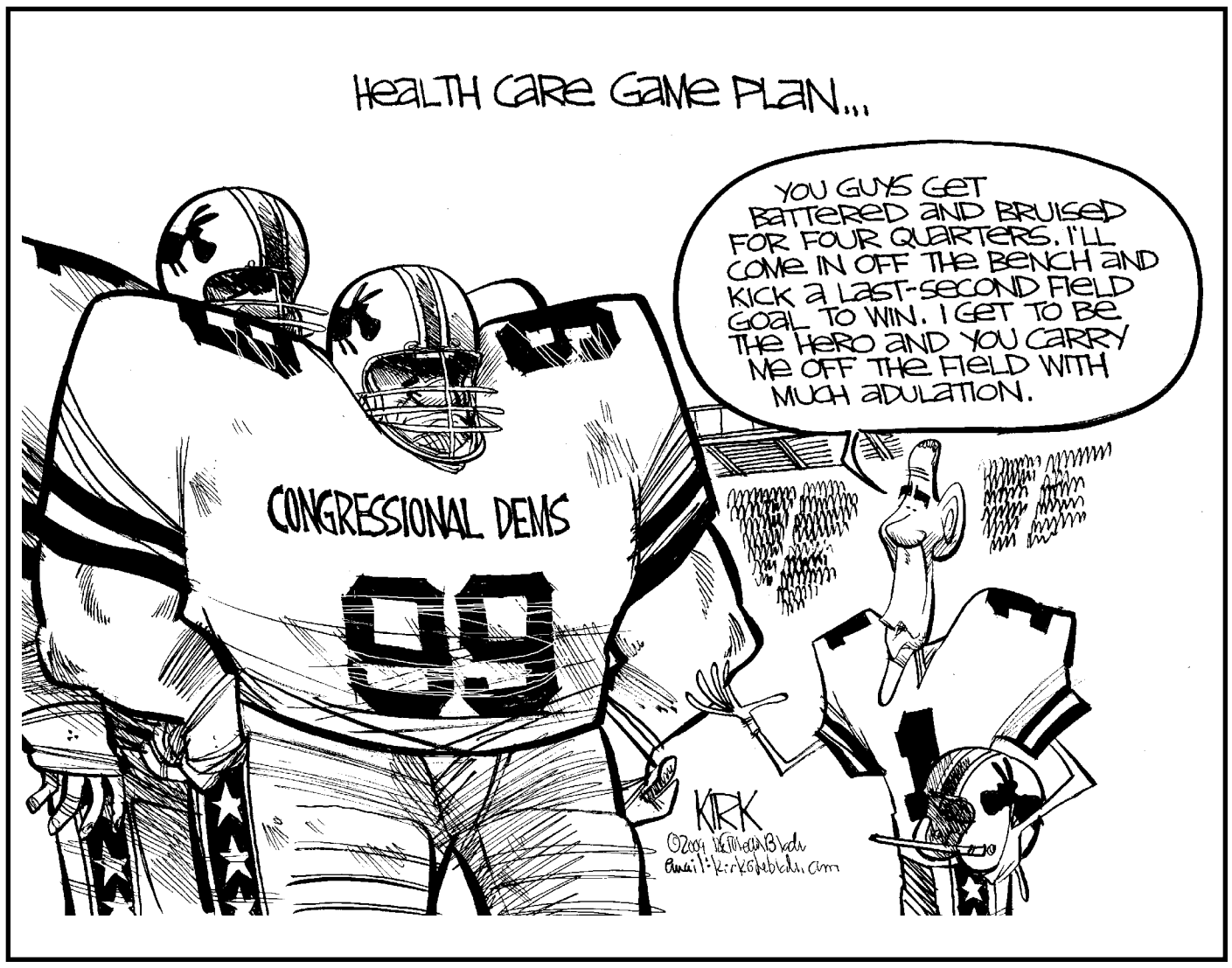
Both courses have risks—but either would be vastly preferable to a certification of victory for Karzai by the central election authority, which he controls. Obama administration officials are eager to prevent a runoff from being postponed until after the winter, which means it must be held in the next several weeks. So the administration must find ways soon to persuade Karzai to accept either a runoff or power-sharing.

This could be difficult for several reasons. One, of course, is Karzai: He has allied himself with warlords and appointed or tolerated corrupt provincial officials who are responsible for the fraud, among much else. But the Obama administration's handling of the Afghan leader has often been clumsy. It has held him at arm's length and derided him publicly; arguably it has helped to stimulate the behavior that some now complain of.

In fact, if the United States is going to keep troops in Afghanistan—and Obama has said that it will—it has no choice but to build and support the strongest government possible, both at the national and local levels. That is far from impossible: Afghanistan had a working national government through most of the 1970s and '80s. Such an administration would be welcomed not only by Afghans but also by Pakistanis who support secular and pro-Western democracy. Only Pakistan's anti-Western forces oppose a strong Afghan government.

The United States must pressure Karzai to make the right decisions in the coming days. But it must also make clear that it is willing to stand behind the Afghan leadership that emerges from this political process. It needs to forge a new working relationship with that leadership, one that will be centered on improving the daily lives of Afghans. A confirmation by Obama that he will provide the troops and other resources necessary to turn back the Taliban will by itself strengthen the government's authority around the country, and it could give it the confidence to take on necessary reforms.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post


HEALTH CARE GAME PLAN...
YOU GUYS GET BATTERED AND BRUISED FOR FOUR QUARTERS. I'LL COME IN OFF THE BENCH AND KICK A LAST-SECOND FIELD GOAL TO WIN. I GET TO BE THE HERO AND YOU CARRY ME OFF THE FIELD WITH MUCH ADULATION.
CONGRESSIONAL DEMS
KIRK

Changes, changes: How to cope with them

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Daily we grow older without noticing that it is happening. Then one day we wake up and feel the aches and pains and wonder what happened. Think back a few years and recall all the various activities we could do with little restriction. Think how our waistline has grown over the years. Most of us never notice until we become overweight. We never considered that changes were taking place until the aches started. Life is in a constant state of flux. Everything, including us, is in a constant state of change. But how we cope with change makes all the difference.

As our physical and mental life around us is constantly changing so is our political and economic life. I hope no one thinks that the many problems our country faces today happened overnight. It's just that we failed to notice that a change was taking place. All of the problems we face today have a history of accumulation. All problems start small and gradually get bigger and bigger. We live in a state of denial. Instead of striving to create a better future, we cling to the past because it feels secure while the future is unknown and scary.

Change implies making either an essential difference often amounting to a loss of original identity or a substitution of one thing for another. Change is the only reality we have. Everything we possess changes; everything we do changes; everything in the universe changes. Nothing is static—not even death.

Change is natural! Don't fight it. Bend with it. Accept it. Embrace it. Change has no beginning and no end. To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.

I recall as a young man, I flew on propeller-driven airplanes. Jet-driven aircraft were still on the drawing board. I recall spending my entertainment time listening to the radio. Television hadn't been invented yet. The computer was still in someone's brain waiting to be born. Today the cell phone is fast replacing the bulky landline instrument. These are only a few of the changes around us.

Accepting change in a proper attitude translates into progress, which is what the CNMI badly needs today. We need to change our viewpoints on all the activities we are engaged in. We need to change our attitudes about the world around us. We need to examine the relationships with Guam and the United States. The past is gone and we cannot recover it. Only the future lies ahead of us. We must look at the past as a bridge and a guidepost to the future, not a longing for it.

I recall going to the movies to watch a movie called *Blue Lagoon*. I was so enchanted watching the small Pacific island with the cute girl and bare breasted guy running around in what seemed a life of innocence. That picture of a small Pacific island remained in my mind and is what motivated me to move to Saipan. But I never found the innocent island life the movie portrayed. When I arrived here I saw no one running around in a sarong or sitting on the beach singing songs. My fantasy was shattered by reality.

As a young college graduate, I had a desire to live abroad. So one day I saw a movie about Japan which showed all the quaint customs of Japan. I was so excited that I managed to get a teaching job and live there. Boy, was I shocked when I arrived and found a nation of busy, hardworking people. No one wore the quaint costumes (kimono) or lived in the quaint houses I saw in that movie. Again my fiction was shattered by reality. But why am I writing all this?

We in the CNMI must shrug off the embrace of the past. No, I am not saying we should forget it. We should use it to help pave the future for us. No longer do we run around as our forefathers and foremothers did. We no longer wear lava lavas. We no longer sit under a coconut tree or a bread fruit tree and merely reach up and pick whichever we desire and enjoy it leisurely. When we opened our doors to the world we were sucked into it with all its good and bad points. Now we must create a foothold in it.

To fully enter this new world we must embrace change and progress. This can only be accomplished by seeking new fresh young faces with fresh new ideas. We have sent many of our sons and daughters abroad to study. We have exposed the remaining ones to the outside world through the windows of technology. Now it is time we allow them to express themselves with their ideas of change and progress. We should stand behind them and motivate them.

The CNMI needs its youth to step forward and take the helm. Youth is not afraid of change and progress. Youth believes that change and progress can be brought about. Youth sees hope and a bright future where we elders see despair and futility.

Recall that John F. Kennedy was only 44 years old when he was elected President of the United States. Barrack Obama was only 47 years old when elected President. Martin Luther King, Jr. received the Noble Peace Prize at the age of 35, the youngest recipient ever. The list of young doers is a long one. As we approach Election Day, let us seek out our youthful candidates who are better educated about the world than many of us and see a different CNMI than we do.

See CHANGES on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Disease, disability, disorder, and dysfunction

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

It was a couple of years ago one September evening in one of the rustic meadows in Illinois, when my autistic son of 12 started getting hyperactive at his half-sister's wedding and his mother swiftly administered a capsule that quickly calmed him down. I was stunned by the effect of the pharmacological intervention, which quickly transformed my son's natural personality to something akin to a pacified bee.

I had been a Mr. Mom earlier to my son and his full sister who are both autistic while living within the beltway of the District of Columbia in the early '90s. The stark demands and reality of disease/disorder classified as disability rent the ramparts of a connubial covenant. At the time, I felt that my wife was unduly obsessed with a disease that she wanted to see cured, while I was trying to understand a disorder that has yet to be understood and needed adapting to. The divergence of perspective and attitude cost us a marriage, something not uncommon to couples dealing with DSM-defined disabilities in the family.

In 1984, the prevalence of autism was 1 per 10,000; in 1994, it was 1 per 1,000. By the time I attended the World Conference on Autism in Melbourne, Australia in 2002, it was 1 per 500. Until recently, it was 1 out of 150-100, and today, the journal *Pediatrics* revealed that of 3-17 year olds, it is 1 out of 91, a dramatic increase by the journal's account.

Last week, parents of a student with "pervasive developmental disorder" took legal recourse against the Public School System for their failure to deliver services his daughter was to receive under her Special Education Individual Education Plan. An IEP is a binding agreement between a teacher, a SpEd representative, a parent or guardian, and the local school administrator. With PSS' track record of thinly spread resources and non-competitive salary rates for especially trained personnel, not to mention a general malaise of cultural indifference to the differently-abled, focusing on deficiencies rather than possibilities, render the PSS vulnerable to legal assaults.

The subdued but poignant wailing at the heartstrings from the NMPASI executive director on the recent incidence of the quiet passing away of a friend suffering from mental disorder affirmed this malaise of general indifference, coupled with what he characterized as service providers' dilemma of having to "tread a fine line between having to help people and helping people to help themselves." His affirmation that people with disability, like everyone else, have the absolute, inalienable right to live lives of their choosing, including the right to seek out and avail of available services, would have been too mild for my proactive ex-wife's taste, who took matters into her own hands and let the provisions of the law provide for the requirements of our children. This seems now to be the case for the parents of our PSS SpEd student.

Of the parents I have been associated with on island, first, with PACA then, STaRPO, and now, with the Autism Society of the CNMI, the island style of working with constituted authority has been the mode of operation. The legislated Autism Commission, for instance, half-hearted and unfunded, is a product of joint efforts, and admittedly, it is a sluggish and unsatisfactory method of dealing with the existential struggles of many parents whose 24/7 efforts is never sufficient to meet a child requirements vs. aberrant behavior and mystifying condition, heretofore ill-understood, let alone, explained as to causes and origins.

With the heightening awareness of the role of "disability" in public policy and governmental programs, it has revealed, as in the case of autism, cerebral palsy and Down's syndrome, an absence of social net to provide postsecondary occupational and vocational assistance before workforce development aid is extended.

As a society, we get hyper-anxious when a pandemic like swine flu breaks out, but when an epidemic goes beyond being a disorder to a disease like autism, it hardly shakes our equilibrium. In fact, dysfunctionality is a quality of our contemporary life.

When Chief Justice Demapan slams the local government during the annual State of the Judiciary Address for "too prevalent" incidence of corruption, we are tempted to call his characterization as a case of gross understatement. There is a sense, particularly in regulatory bodies, where practices of corruption are more a way of life rather than an exception to the rule. Thus, the Chief Justice's lament comes not as a new insight but as a cry of anguish to affirm what is already commonly known.

In fact, dysfunctionality has pervaded ecological processes (climate warning is finally getting recognized as a reality and not a figment of doomsayers' imagination) down to the nuclear family structures (60 percent incidence of marital divorce, 90 percent on family dealing with disability), across the rural and the urban, among desert nomads and the plain settlers, with the wayfarers and sea floaters, also the educated and the unschooled, and even the simple and the sophisticated, glocally and worldwide.

I've written enough about our dysfunctional social process of tyrannical economic structures that favor the financial sector over the resource development and production systems; to subservient political processes that is obsessed with imposing discriminatory order over the demands of blind justice and universal welfare, and to the anemic cultural foundations focusing on capricious consumer lifestyles and calcified religious symbols over relevant wisdom, skills and knowledge.

Justice Demapan, of course, would recognize that when one has almost absolute power over another, particularly those who do not belong but are strangers and strugglers—as has happened to the non-indigenous component of the CNMI population—corrupt practices are not too far behind. The prevalence of commercial marriages, child adoption of extended kin which has repercussions on retirement benefits and inheritance, tourists in the informal economy, students eking their existence by whatever means necessary including underage practitioners of the evening graces along the shadows, the widespread use of methamphetamine and other illicit drugs across all economic classes, and various sponsorship schemes to retain legal presence in the CNMI are just a few examples on how we have taken for granted various aspects of the evolution of our local way of life.

The upside of all these is a democratization of governance that makes it incumbent on everyone to participating in meeting one's own requirements. The addition of Plus One on the four strategic directions at PSS to include parents and community participation in school affairs is a welcome development, which we trust will violate everyone's skepticism and produce more substance than hype. We've met the solution to our predicaments: It is us.

Do not just get involved, nor settle for mere protest. Blaze a trail. The age of dependence is over. The age of interdependence is upon us. Diseases, disabilities, disorders, and dysfunctions are our fate and destiny in our time. Might that together we learn to deal with them.

Sagradu I Attikulu XII

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I Attikulu Dose (XII) gi papa` konstitusion iya Marianas ha prebeniye suprimu na proteksion tanu natibu. Maseha pot hechuran tanu `nai mapega, mauleg ta komprende na i proteksion tanu, sagradu este na intension gi haye siña gumai tanu guine. It natibu ha` solu mapetmiti sa` siha i dueñon este siha na tanu deste kuatru mit años antes. Tanu guelu yan guela! Hita pagu i heriderus este siha na tanu.

Maseha manu na lugat, i tanu natibu `nai ma-establese kutturan todus klasen rasan tautau. Deste man-rikohen probision para familia ginen tinanum gualu yan peskan tasi, dinaña linahyan, fiestan patron `sino soñgsoñg yan otru siha na patte gi kuttura, todus manmafañagu gi hilu sagradu na tanu natibu. Estague impottansiaña este na probision i Attikulu Dose.

Lau gi kase kiñientos años deste hinalom atoridat ginen hiyuñg, i kutturan natibu sige ma-aminasa `sino ma-destrosia deste finatton Español, Haliman, Japones, pagu Amerikanu. Ni unabes `nai mañaunau gi sinseru na pinetsigen adelantun linala` natibu fuera ke usun esklabu pot nesessidat niha. Estague na finapos masuñgon todu gi as guelu yan guela. Ala kuenta mana` fan mamañot tolañg si guelu yan guela sin minalagu niha.

I natibu guaha sistemaña pot areglon disposision yan uson tanu. Lau i siseman kuttura todu madestrosia nu i atoridat ginen hiyoñg. Estague na plaset `nai diariamente mananum si guelu aguon, golai yan gulusina para mantension familia. I kosechan gualu mana`afaburesi unu yan otru gi halom siha mismu gi señgsoñg siha. Kontodo kinisechan pinegsai gaga ginen i lanchu mapapatte i bisinu maseha dididi.

Este na kutturan tanu i muna fifitme i pegsi inetnon natibu gi halum komunidat antigu. Todu pot todu guaha antau yan namagof na sensian inadahe yan inapinitiye deste chechu familia esta linahyan. Tat ti kumalamten pot unu yan pot i otru. I fitme na sensian komunida mina` metgot i natibu gi halom katma, dilubiu, linau yan pagyu.

Deste antes este na kuttura yan tradision establisau gi halum natibu. Pot este na rason na metgot i sentimienton prinitehen tanu natibu. Makat ta chapag hafa relasion tautauta yan tanu niha deste antes. Gaige gi este siha na tanu natibu `nai ginen un` tiempu machuchuda sinparat i masahalum guelu yan guela. Hombre siha maprotehe kabales tanu natibu pot para benefisiun i manatatte. Obligasionta umabiba i sattun na sensian guelu yan guela para i famaguonta.

I tasi, halum yan hiyuñg rubentasion, hagas lugat man-aligau mantension para familia deste antigu na tiempu. Ayu na todu islas man-mahafot te`lañg guelu yan guela komu petmanente na guaddian i tano`ta siha punta pot punta. Hombre siha manachu sin ditension. Tarehata pagu gumuot ennau na achon komu kabesanten komunidatta guine.

Hu ekspepekta megai siha na aminasu para ta totpe gi karerata mona. Lau ni nuñka besis `nai baihu dis-attende dichu direchon natibu sa` mattu i tiempu `nai debi ta aregla este siha na aminasu yan mahasñgon na distrosiu `sino chinatsaga kontra natibu.

Gi kadada na manera: Antes hita man-dadandan ukelele gi papa` troñkun niyog mientras sige man-gupot i atoridat ginen hiyuñg siha. Siha pagu u fan dandan ukelele sa` esta tatuñgu lokue` man-daña gi fina namagof na okasion siha. Ahe ti siha ha` tautau ya para ta kontinue manmafa` esklabu yan tentagu. Hita i dueñon este siha na islas!

Gi todu para ta petsige, hu gagagau pinasensian miyu gi tinituhon para ta otganisa fitme na inetnon natibu. Todu para ta petsige debi u dañkulu na benefisiu para i famaguonta siha deste edukasion, adelanton ekonomia, guma familia, uson liñguahen tanu petmanente, mana` fitmen kuttura yan tradision tano`ta gi hilu regulat na eksisiu pot para ta fanague famaguonta hafa kutturan niha. Estague un` fitme na añklan famaguonta.

■■■

Ha baba si pale un` katta ginen un` prohimu. Un` palabra solu matuge guihe na katta: Taimamahlau! Gi setmoña gi sigiente Dameñgo, ilegña si pale na megai tautau man-mamañge katta ya ti mafitma naan niha. "Lau ayu na katta i hu resibe nigap, ha fitma naaña i prohimu lau malefa ti mañge katta".

CHANGES

From Page 10

When are we going to wake up and realize that we cannot be economically successful the old way? When are we going to begin cultivating the natural resources God has given us? When are we going to stop being shortsighted and wake up that the CNMI has the potential to become great? Only youth and progressive thinking minds can help us.

I despair when I hear someone lamenting to me about how he longs for the TT days and the '80s and '90s. Then he starts to rave about how we should go back and do things as were done in that period. Little does he realize that he has become a fossil and antiquated. The world has moved on but he has stayed static. He walks ahead with his head turned backwards.

It is time we listen to the sound of the bugle and wake up to realize that what we have been doing in the past has not worked because we did not change with change. We have squandered millions of dollars and great opportunities. For some unfathomable reason we fail to grasp what has to be done. We have not been able to sustain our growth. Why?

We have many young and well-educated people who can show us the way. Many of them have studied in universities and have experienced life other than the one in the CNMI. For what other reason did we send them out to learn except to return and guide us in entering the future with confidence and pride?

We must accept change. It is the only thing that will save us. Let's accept the fact that we need help to accept changes. And the help is in our own sons and daughters. They smell the freshness of the future. They are full of energy and determination. They dare to take risks. Let's stop sending them away. Let them take the reins.

Consider this on Election Day as we elect 43 officials out of a slate of 109. Who are the young and forward-looking candidates? If we elect them, they will be aggressive and thrust us into the future. Or do we still want to elect the tired and backward-looking candidates? Let youth have its time. I believe in them and in their vision of the future. Why don't the rest of us believe in them also?

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲85	▼76
Palau	Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼76
Chuuk	Sunny	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼78
Majuro	Rain	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

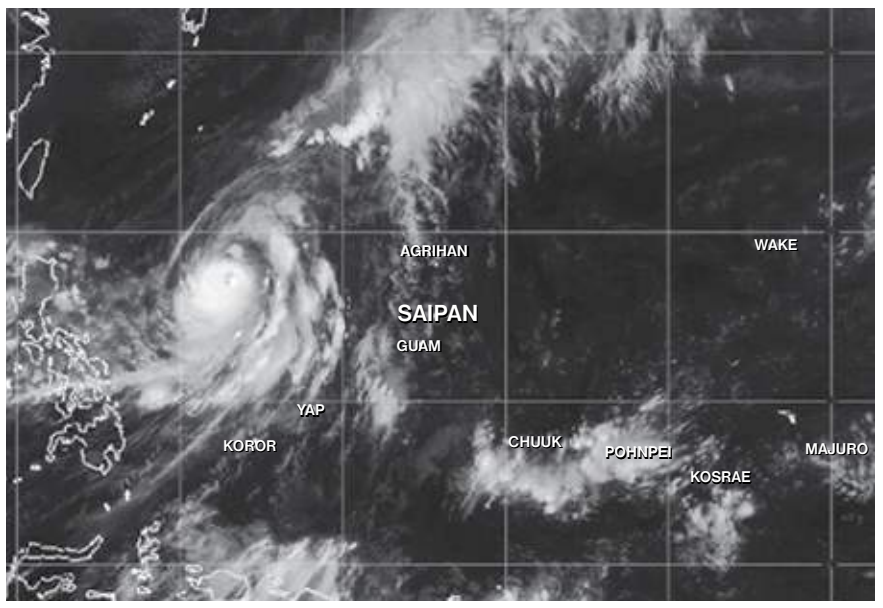
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼53
Beijing	Sunny	▲58	▼41
Hong Kong	Rain	▲83	▼76
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼75
London	Showers	▲57	▼43
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Manila	Rain	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲73	▼55
Miami	Cloudy	▲81	▼72
New York	Cloudy	▲54	▼42
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲69	▼58
Paris	Showers	▲54	▼40
Pusan	Showers	▲64	▼50
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲59	▼42
Salem	Cloudy	▲61	▼47
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼53
Seoul	Showers	▲56	▼37
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼59
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲59	▼43

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:04 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:38 AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:22 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:33 PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Lupit (22w) is centered at 17N133E. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are within 125 miles of the center. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms extending as far south as Yap are in a large area between 8N and 22N from 130E to 140E. A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N140E to 24N134E. Scattered showers are within 75 miles of the front. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms just southwest of Guam within 75 miles of a line from 11N142E to 10N143E and south of Palau near the equator south of a line from 4N130E to 2N141E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from 4N153E to a weak circulation just south of Majuro near 5N172E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in an area from just south of Chuuk across Pohnpei within 150 miles of a line from 6N150E to 7N158E. Scattered showers are south of Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 3N163E to 1N163E and across the Marshall Islands between 5N and 10N from 170E to 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:54 PM
Tuesday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:46 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	7:43 AM	7:15 PM
Wednesday	8:39 AM	8:05 PM
Thursday	9:35 AM	8:57 PM
Friday	10:28 AM	9:50 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 5, 6
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW100	8:40pm	1:20am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 effective Oct 1

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Letters to the Editor

Challenge accepted but not appreciated: A political science lesson

First, I will accept the challenge of Secretary Ada but I would have preferred just a simple "invitation" as the word "challenge" sets the conditions for some kind of contest. I didn't appreciate his invitation being a challenge because this is not about debating but about getting answers and solutions. The challenge issued to me was truly an uneducated and desperate move.

Secondly, Secretary Ada may think he wants to debate with me but he really doesn't want to square off with me in a debate on the politics of this ARRA issue—and for him to say this is not about politics is something I don't believe he can convince anyone to believe. I don't know who the political strategist is for this administration but they should have known not to pick a fight with me like he did. Someone should have told Sec-

See CHALLENGE on Next Page

More leaders like these

A little over a year ago, when I moved to Saipan, I was in absolute awe of the natural beauty of this island. I could't understand how such a unique tropical paradise could be in such economic distress. Over time, I've come to agree with Chief Justice Demapan (Saipan Tribune, Oct. 16, 2009, "Chief Justice Demapan Slams Govt Corruption"). I believe that the potential prosperity of these beautiful islands has been thwarted by the corruption and self-interest of its elected leaders.

As a registered voter in the CNMI, I take my responsibility to elect good leaders very seriously. This year, I've found two candidates who really stand out: Angelo O'Conner Villagomez for mayor of Saipan, and Christina Marie Tina Sablan for the Senate. Angelo Villagomez is a proven leader. We have seen him lead us to Beautify CNMI and to protect our priceless reef. He doesn't just talk the talk; he walks the walk. As mayor of Saipan, I do not doubt that he will achieve his goals: he will solve the feral dog problem, pave problem roads, and enforce the laws on dumping. This is a young man with energy, ability, and a passion for serving this community. What more could we ask for in a mayor?

Tina Sablan is an amazingly unique politician in the CNMI. As a member of the House of Representatives, she asks the questions that I would ask. She is also a very careful spender of the people's money. We've been told of the massive overspending by the Legislature in their budgets, but Tina Sablan only spent about $615 of the people's money in doing her job. (If our entire Legislature followed that example, think of the money the CNMI would have for actual projects and improvements.) Tina is an example of dedicated, focused, public service. She does not involve herself in ethically questionable backroom deals, and lives by the transparency laws she supports. The CNMI needs more leaders with integrity like Tina Sablan.

It is with great confidence that I support both Angelo Villagomez for Mayor of Saipan and Tina Sablan for Senate in November 2009, and encourage others who care about the future of CNMI to do the same.

Dianne Esplin
As Matuis, Saipan

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

P.O. Box 504042 Patma Ln.
Saipan, MP 96950-0470

Email: info@votecnmi.gov.mp
http://www.votecnmi.gov.mp/

Tel.: (670) 664-VOTE (8683)
Fax: (670) 664-8689

Public Education on "House Legislative Initiative 16-11 to Amend Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution"

Question: Do you approve of House Legislative Initiative 16-11 to amend Article III, Section 9(a) of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands to prohibit the withdrawal of any funds from the General Fund except by appropriations made by law Article XV, Section 2(a) of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands? Yes or No.

Stated Findings: The Legislature finds that in the past decade the Legislature and the Governor failed to pass the budget for fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2006, by the September 1 deadline. The Legislature also finds that the submission of the Governor's proposed budget to the Legislature is on or before April 1 allowing sufficient time for members to reach an agreement by September 1, which provides the Legislature with five months to consider the budget. The failure to enact a budget has contributed to the Commonwealth Government's cumulative deficit of approximately $170 million, which is in violation of Article X, Section 6, of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which requires that if an operating deficit is incurred in future fiscal years, that the government shall retire the deficit during the second consecutive fiscal year following the year.

The legislature also finds that 23 U.S. states contain provisions to effectuate the shutdown of government services until a budget is enacted, further emphasizing the fiscal importance of enacting a budget. Thirty-seven states have provisions against carrying deficits into the next fiscal year, which further enforces the principle of a balanced budget. The Legislature additionally finds that in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth it is necessary that the government continue to provide essential services without interruption and effectuate the cessation of services that are not essential in a safe, effective, and orderly manner.

There are many costs associated with the failure to enact a budget including increased operational costs, the inability to deal with contractual obligations, and increased deficit spending resulting from working at the previous year's spending levels. Other incalculable costs include the decline in public confidence in elected officials, damage to the image of the Commonwealth Government, and a poor credit rating.

General Summary: House Legislative Initiative 16-11's priority is to ensure that on October 1, the beginning of each fiscal year, the legislator has passed a balanced budget. The House concludes that in the past not having a balanced budget at the beginning of the new fiscal year has caused the Commonwealth to spend outside its means until a balanced budget is finalized and passed. Accordingly, this initiative, attempts to ensure that both the Legislators and the Governor pass a balanced budget by October 1, by suspending their salaries if they do not meet their deadlines. If the Governor does not submit a "detailed and balanced budget" to the Legislature by April 1, each year, then the Governor's salary will be suspended until a detailed and balanced budget is submitted. If the legislators do not submit and pass a balanced budget by October 1, each year, then their salaries will be suspended until they do so. If a balanced budget is not passed by October 1, then this initiative states that until a balanced budget is passed the only money that can be drawn from the general fund is for certain government services and employees whose services are "essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth and to protect against damage to and destruction of property."

CHALLENGE

From Page 13

retary Ada that I am out of his league and the consequences of a Cabinet member publicly challenging a single voter could be proof that the administration is desperate and taking uneducated chances by opening the door to this response letter.

The signs of desperation are clear because if it wasn't election time there would be no challenge from this administration, just letting it be like they did by refusing to help me get a Teacher Rep position on the Board. Everyone knows I was ignored by this administration on the Teacher Rep issue but now they want to talk with me personally because their power is on the line in the election! Who does Secretary Ada think he is fooling by saying his challenge is not about politics?

The whole point of this exercise is to get this administration to come up with the solutions—not me. Asking me to come to the meeting with solutions when the administration was elected to come up with solutions is an admission that this administration can't do the job and you need my help. But Secretary Ada had better come to that meeting with a lot of answers and solutions because I'm sure that is the expectation of the majority of people who will be voting in November. The people won't be expecting me to do your homework and solve this administration's problems and I'm not about to try. Furthermore, it should be noted that it is Secretary Ada who is on the witness stand and not me.

Secretary Ada also seems to ignore the fact that I was simply calling for the application of the principles of transparency and efficiency in our government for which there can be no argument or defense against, making his challenge to me a hopeless effort to save face for the administration. It wasn't personal but it is obvious he took it personally and lashed out at me. He attacked me because my simple questions are posing a big threat to this administration's political plans. By Secretary Ada's own words, this administration has failed to educate the people on ARRA and the government has not been efficient with reporting the effects and the expenditures of ARRA funds. The game of politics dictates that I, as a citizen, don't have to know jack about ARRA and the only way Secretary Ada could win his challenge is for him to come to that meeting with all the answers and all the solutions.

Secretary Ada challenging me isn't really fair and the proof is in the fact that I had already prepared the first volley of questions before he could even issue his challenge to me. As what Muhammad Ali might say, "I'm a dangerous man." I also love the game of politics like FDR so be careful what you ask for, Secretary Ada. He may have thought he wanted to debate with me and that he was setting a trap for me by issuing the challenge but it is really him and the administration caught in a trap because they will be held accountable to all the people of the CNM, not me.

I will come prepared to meet the challenge but I will be more interested in the answers of Secretary Ada to the questions I have already asked. I also hope and pray for the sake of the Commonwealth that he is really genuine about finding solutions and has done his homework before the meeting so we don't have to hear more rationales. I will also come to the meeting with the intent to *speak softly* but I will also bring my *"big stick"* just in case. I'm looking forward to participating in the process because Secretary Ada really issued a challenge to all the CNMI, not just me. Oh, and thanks Secretary Ada for the opportunity to give this *real life* example of a political science lesson on the politics of the CNMI and the Fitial administration. It is not personal and no disrespect is intended. I just happen to be an informed and active member society.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

P.O. Box 504042 Patma Ln.
Saipan, MP 96950-0470

Email: info@votecnmi.gov.mp
http://www.votecnmi.gov.mp/

Tel.: (670) 664-VOTE (8683)
Fax: (670) 664-8689

Edukasion Pupbliku ni "House Legislative Initiative 16-11 para u Amenda i Attikulu III, Seksiona 9(a) gi Konstitusion"

Kuestion: Kåo un apreba i House Legislative Initiative 16-11 para u amenda i Attikulu III, Seksiona 9(a) gi Konstitusion i Sangkattan na Islan Marianas para u pribi i linaknos maseha håfa na fondo siha ginen i Fondon Heneråt solo ginen i apropositu siha ni fina'tinas i Attikulu XV na lai, Seksiona 2(a) gi Konstitusion i Sangkattan na Islan Marianas? Hunggan pat Åhe'.

Yåma na Sinedda' Siha: I Lehislatura ha sodda' na gi ma'pos dies åños na tiempo na i Lehisltatura yan i gobietno ti mapåsa i budget para i åños fiskåt siha desde i 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, yan 2006, ginen i Septembre 1 na deadline. I Lehislatura ha sodda' lokkue' na i nina'hålom propositon budget ni gobietno para i lehislatura på'go pat åntes di Abrit 1 ni para u nina'i sufisiente tiempo para i miembro siha para u fåtto i kontråta gi Septembre 1, ni pribeniyi i lehislatura gi halom i singko meses na tiempo para u konsidera i budget. I ti muna'otdena i budget ni manna'halom para i Gobietnamenton Commonwealth na cumulative deficit gi propiu $170 miyon pesos ni ha kontra i Attikulu X, Seksiona 6, gi Konstitusion i Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islan Marianas siha ni ha dimånda na i operating deficit ha incurred gi mamamaila' na åños fiskåt siha, na i gobietnamento debi na u ritira u deficit gi durånten i segundo åño fisikåt ni uma'atattiyi gi sigiente såkkan.

I Lehislatura lokkue' ha sodda' na 23 U.S. estådu siha mañahguan probension siha ni para efektibu i setbision i gobietnamenton siha estaki i ma'otdena i budget mås mo'na inemfisisisa i empottånten i fisiskåt ni inetdonan i budget. Trenta i dos(32) na estådu manggai probension siha kontra i makåtgan i deficit siha asta i sigiente na såkkan fisikåt ni mås mo'na ha nå'i fuetsa i balånsian i prinsipåt na budget. I lehislatura ha sodda' mås na i manera na para u prutehi i hinemlo', siguridåt, yan minaolek i taotåo gi Commonwealth ni nesisårio na i gobietnamento ha kontinuha para u pribeniyi manprisisu na setbisio siha sin u inestotba yan effectuate i cessation i setbisio siha ni ti manprisisu l gi halom i sinafo',efektibu yan areklåo na manera.

Kantidå na gåsto siha ni mana'achule' yan i pineddong i otdenan i budget såsaonåo i inadilåntan i gåston operasion siha, ti mangkapås na kontråta yan i contractual obligations, yan i inadilåntan i malingon i gåsto ni rinisusutta ginen i che'cho' gi manma'pos na gåsto na manera siha. Otro i manmakatkula na gåsto siha såsaonåo i tumunok i konfidentsian i pupbliku gi manma'ayek na ofisiåt siha, nina'tailayi i figuran i Gobietnamenton Commonwealth, yan båban i credit rating.

Sumårian Heneråt: I House Legislative Initiative 16-11 ha na'siguru na i Oktubri 1, i tinituhon i kada såkkan fisikåt, i lehisladot ha påsa i binalånsan salåppe'. I House ha detitmina na gi manma'pos tåya' binalånsan salåppe' gi tinituhon i nuebu na såkkan fisikåt ha na'fangåsta i Commonwealth gi hiyong i nina'sinå-ña asta ki i binalånsan salåppe' mafinalisa yan mapåsa. Sigun, este i initiative, ha chagi para u na'siguru na parehu i lehisladot siha yan i Gobietno mapåsa i binalånsan salåppe' gi Oktubri 1, gi sinuspenden i suetdon-ñiha komu ti manmåtto gi iyo-ñiha deadlines. Yanggen i Gobietno ti ha na'hålom i "detailed yan binalånsan salåppe " para i lehislatura gi Abrit 1, kada såkkan, pues i suetdon i gobietno siempre masuspende asta ki ma'entrega hålom i detailed yan binalånsan salåppe' . Yanggen i Lehisladot siha ti mana'hålom yan mapåsa i binalånsan salåppe' gi Oktubri 1, kada såkkan, pues i suetdon-ñiha debi na u masuspende asta ki macho'gue. Yanggen i binalånsan salåppe' ti mapåsa gi Oktubri 1, pues este i initiative ha yåma siha na asta ki i binalånsan salåppe' mapåsa ayu ha' na salåppe' siña malaknos ginen i fondon heneråt para i pumalu na setbision gobietnamento siha yan emple'åo siha ni setbision-ñiha man"essential para i hinemlo', sinåfo', yan minaolek i taotåo i Commonwealth yan para u protehi kontra i dåñu para yan destroson propiadåt"

Guam's Camacho leads trade delegation to Korea

GUAM—Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho departed island yesterday morning to lead a Guam delegation to the Republic of Korea from Oct. 19 to 20 in an effort to develop new business opportunities and advocate continued investment in tourism for the impending military buildup in Guam.

"Korea's economy is strongly rebounding from the effects of the global recession," said Camacho. "Our goal is to attract potential Korean investors and operators with the opportunities Guam has in light of our current and anticipated economic activity."

Camacho is scheduled to attend the Guam Build Up Symposium and Business Opportunity Conference, organized by the Guam Economic Development Authority, on Oct. 20 at the Grand Hyatt Seoul. Conference speakers will include David B. Tydingco, Guam Visitors Bureau board chairman; Monte Mesa, Port Authority of Guam board chairman; Simon Sanchez, Consolidated Commission on Utilities chairman; and Frank J. Campillo, Guam Chamber of Commerce chairman. The speakers will present an overview of Guam's tourism, military buildup, and port and utilities infrastructure.

Camacho

"Not only do we hope to spur investment interest for Guam, we want to jumpstart business travel from Korea to Guam as a growing market segment," said Tydingco.

Additional conference speakers include Kil Koo Yoon, CEO of Younex and past president of the Korea Association of Guam, who will deliver a testimonial about doing business on Guam; Chris Murphy, president of Real Estate Professionals, who will discuss the real estate industry and opportunities in Guam; and consultant economist John Gilliam, who will speak on the opportunities for Guam as a regional center for visa programs.

Camacho is also scheduled to meet with Kathleen Stephens, U.S. ambassador to South Korea, on Oct. 20 at the 2009 Seoul Air Show reception being held at her residence. Furthermore, Camacho will have the opportunity to meet with various business representatives and Korean and U.S. officials in attendance at the reception.

Younex Corp., STX Corp., Hanil Construction & Engineering, Samsung Construction & Engineering, Dong Seoul College, SK Construction & Engineering, and Buck San Construction Co. are sponsors of the conference and reception. ***(PR)***

Casino buildup being eyed for Pacific region

SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands—Casino investors are buying up hotel properties on Rota, the second-largest island of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, in hopes of attracting military gamblers once the U.S. increases its presence in nearby Guam.

Japanese and Korean investors separately bought two Rota hotels this month in anticipation of turning them into the island's first casinos.

Many of their customers would be 8,000 Marines and their 9,000 dependents who will be moved from Okinawa, Japan to Guam, located just 35 miles to the south of Rota.

The new casinos could take business from the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, located on the island of Tinian to the north of Rota. ***(Associated Press)***

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

P.O. Box 504042 Patma Ln.
Saipan, MP 96950-0470

Email: info@votecnmi.gov.mp
http://www.votecnmi.gov.mp/

Tel.: (670) 664-VOTE (8683)
Fax: (670) 664-8689

Ammatafal Toulap reel "House Initiative 16-11 iye ebwe siweli Article III, Section 9(a) reel Allégh Lapalap"

Ayegh: U aprebai "House Initiative 16-11 iye ebwe siweli Article III, Section 9(a) reel Allégh Lapalap ye reel Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Mellól Marianas iye ebwe pileey isisiwowul salapi kka sángi General Fund, bwe ngáre schagh appropriations kka e toowow mereel alléghúl Article XIV,Sectio 2(a) mereel Allégh Lapalap ye reel Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Mellól Marianas? Awer me ngáre Saabw.

Ikka re schuungil: Legislature re schuungi bwe llól rágh kka eló nge Legislature me Sów Lemelem rese bwungúw salapiyal rágh kka 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, me 2006, sángi September 1 deadline. Legislature e bwal schungi bwe isáliyalong Sow Lemelem pomwol budget ngáliir legislature nge wóól me ngáre mmwal April 1 iye re ayoor ótol membro kkaal igha rebwe bwungúw fengálli llól September 1, iye re ayoora ngáliir legislature limwoow maram igha rebwe aghiyágh wóól budget. I gha ese bwung budget aa toowow Gobennool Commonwealth aa ayoora deficit sibwe ira llapal $170 million iye ese tabweey Article X, Section 6 mereel Allégh Lapalap ye Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Mellól Commonwealth, iye e tingór bwe ngáre operating deficit e yoorolong llól rágh kka e toooto, ye Gobenno ebwe ayuwuló deficit llól aruwowal ráágh ye e tabw mwiril.

Legislature e bwal schungi bwe 23 U.S. states re ayoora alléghéló akkayulóól mwóghutul Gobenno milli yaal alléghéló budget iye ebwe bwaari pirisisul rebwe ayoora budget. Eliigh me fisuuw states kka re ayoora allégh kka ese tabweey ngáre ebwe atolongoow deficits kkaal lllól rágh ye ebwe toolong llól iye e amamaawa aweweel igha ebwe balance budget. Legislature aa bwal appashalong schungiyal bwe ngáre ebwe ammwala yaar health, safety me welfare aramasal Commonwealth bwe e pirisisu Gobenno ebwe ayoora essential services nge essóbw weires me ebwe akkayúló ikka ese ghi pirisisu nge efil.

Eghil ssogh milikka e associate ngáli budget ye ese bwung, ebwal toolong tumwóghótál operational costs, ese mmwel ebwe deal-li contractual obligations me tómwoghul deficit spending eyooretá sángi trabwaghol previous years spending levels. Akkááw incalculable costs me bwal ppaschelong ghittighiitiwel yaar apúlúghúlúghúr toulap wóór elected officials, e anngawar ló mellól Commonwealth Government me eghi sóssóletiw yaar credit rating.

Aweewe: Ghi mmwal yaal House Leghislative Initiative 16-11 nge ebwe allégh ló bwe October 1, bweletál ghal fiscal year, leghislator aa bwungúw ló balance budget, House e conclude-li bwe ighiwe igha ese yoor balanced budget bweletál fisical year ye ffé eayoora ngáli Commonwealth ebwe yááli ngáli milikka, lughul faal nge mille yaal finalized me bwung balanced budget. Accordingly, initiative ekke melal bwe ebwe alléghúló bwe iir legislators me Gobenno rebwe bwungúw ló balanced budget sángi October 1, ebwe akkayúúló óbwóósur ngáre rese meet-li yaar deadline. Ngáre Gobenno ese atootolong "detailed me balanced budget" reel legislature sángi April 1, llól ghal rágh, iwe óbwóósul Gobenno ebwe akkayúúló mille yaal atootolong "detailed me balanced budget. Ngáre Legislators rese atootolong balanced budget me féérú bwe ebwe bwung balanced budget sángi October 1, llól ghal rágh, iwe ebwe akkayúúló óbwóósur mille yaar féérú. Ngáre balanced budget ese bwung sángi October 1, iwe initiative yeel e irátiw bwe mille yaal bwung balanced budget salapi ye schagh e mmwel ebwe toowow sángi general fund iye ebwe yááyá ngáli schagh akkááw government services me schóól tarabwagho kka yaar angaang e "essential ngáli health, safety, me amweleer(welfare) aramasal Commonwealth me ebwe affáliir mereel damage me destruction of property.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

PRINIPONEN ATKILON TANU PUBLIKU

Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku giya Chalan Kanoa Tanu Numeru 014 H 01, poku mas o`menos Kiñientus Ochentai Ochu (588) metru kuatdrao.

Maseha haye libre muna` halom opiñion pot este na priniponen usun tanu publiku. Siña muna` halom hau sentimientu guato gi kabesanten tanu publiku gi maseha manu na offisinan tanu entre Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Uttimu haane pot nina` halom opiñion i Nobembre dia 2, 2009.

I para u inatkila este na lugat i kompanian Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., kompania guine giya Marianas. I umiluluye este na kuetpon kompania i sigiente siha: Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, yan Bo Ok Shin. I offisiat siha: Eun Hie Shin, presidente; So Young Shin-Thouvenin, segundu presidente; Bo Ok Shin, sekretariu/tresurariu.

I man-atkikila para u usa i lugat para sagan kareta yan lokue sumasaonao ayo na fasilidat i humahatme gi tanu publiku. Este na atkilon si Señor Chang Wang Jang i munigosiu yan sumera i kontrata.

I tetminon este na kontrata para bente siñku años (25 years) ya libre lokue i umatkikila umekstende para talu kinse años (15 years) na tiempu.

I atkilon gaige gi monhayan na ripot mafananaan "appraisal", (ininan yan inestudian kuantu baliña i tanu publiku) ni para uma-atkila. I depattamienton tanu taya ha resibi otro propositu pot uson este na tanu publiku. I kopian i maproponen kontråtan atkilon siña machule' gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku Siha, gaige gi sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; i sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luta; pat i primet(1st) pisu gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

I Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ha risibi tåya' na tinahguen propositu siha para i atkilon suheton tåno' pupbliku giya Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

ARONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALAWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ekke isisiwow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eew falaweer toulap mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw Kka Efáng, Marianas.

Toulap kka eyoor mafiyeer reel pomwol akkiloon yeel rebwe afangalong me bwal sángi Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, arong yeel ebwe akkatéwow.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falaweer toulap ye ekke bwáári bwe Lot No. 014 H 01, ebwe yoor 588 sq meters, e lapeló ngáre e ghittiw, elo Elal Ghaloowa Seipél. Tilighiyal bwuley yeel elo Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer toulap ngáre óubwe amweri.

ii. Schóóy Akkiloon nge Mike's Manufacturing, Inc. Corporationul CNMI. Board of Directors llól Corporation yeel nge Ji Young Shin, EUN Hie Shin me Bo Ok Shin.

Samwoolul Cooporation yeel nge Eun Hie Shin, Arúschayúl So Young Shin – Thouvenin. Secretary me Treasurer nge Bo Ok Shin.

iii. Pomwol akkiloon yeel nge sángi yaal aweewe Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. Schóóy akkiloon ebwe yááyá bwuley reel parkingil ghareeta me encroaching building structure.

Tool pomwol akkiloon yeel nge 25 ráágh, me emmwel ebwe bwal sóbwusóbw ngáli 15 ráágh.

Pomwol akkiloonul llól ráágh nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (appraisal value) me bwal millikka e akkayú llól bwuley.

v. Pomwol Akkiloon yeel nge emmwel ebwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap, 2nd floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg. Dandan, Seipél, 2nd floor Bank of Saipan Commercial Bldg, Luuta, me ngáre 1st floor Kings Commercial Bldg. Tchúlúyól.

vi. Ese yoor bwal eew pomwol akkiloon Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap e Amwuschi bwe iye schagh elo Elal Ghaloowa,Seipél.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ebwe bwughi aghiyágh, Mángemáng me aingiing mereer schóókka re tipeli wóól me ngáre mmwal Ariyamoy 2, 2009, mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap mewóól Seipél, Tchúlúyól me Luuta.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 014 H 01, containing an area of approximately 588 square meters, more or less, situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, and Bo Ok Shin.

The President of the Corporation is Eun Hie Shin. The Vice President is So Young Shin-Thouvenin. The Secretary and Treasurer is Bo Ok Shin.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of maintaining vehicular parking space and an encroaching commercial building structure.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 2, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Business

Lobbyists influence financial reform

AP

Goldman Sach's headquarters is shown, Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009 in New York. Goldman Sachs again showed its trading prowess, helping the Wall Street firm earn more than $3 billion in the third quarter.

NEW YORK (AP)—Get over it, America. Wall Street bankers make too much money. The latest example: Goldman Sachs says it has set aside $16.7 billion so far this year for compensation—or about $530,000 per employee. Not bad for a company that a year ago received $10 billion in federal money as well as $12.9 billion from the government's bailout of American International Group Inc.

Maddening? Sure. But forcing Goldman or any other Wall Street firm to pay employees less won't help a single unemployed American find a job. It won't help a single homeowner who can't afford his mortgage. It won't help a single credit card user whose fees keep getting jacked up.

If you want something to really make you angry, though, consider this number: $224 million. It's a lot less than $16.7 billion but it could pack far more punch. That's the amount the financial industry spent in the first half of this year to lobby Congress to water down regulations aimed at preventing another financial meltdown. And more money is expected to be on the way.

"There is so much happening in the financial sector to be upset about. The bonuses are the least of it," said Barry Ritholtz, who writes the popular financial blog "The Big Picture" and is the author of the new book "Bailout Nation." "More importantly, we can't let the banks own Congress."

The worry is that the money used for lobbying could lead lawmakers to back down on their promises for reform.

The Obama administration and many members of Congress have told the public repeatedly over the last year that a regulatory overhaul was needed to protect us from another financial disaster, and their constituents back home are counting on them. Trillions of dollars in taxpayer funds have been pumped into the financial system to stabilize markets and prevent big institutions from failing.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Calif. bank becomes 99th in US to be shut in 2009

NEW YORK (AP)—Regulators have shut down San Joaquin Bank in California, marking the 99th failure this year of a federally insured bank. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was appointed receiver of San Joaquin Bank, based in Bakersfield, Calif. It had $775 million in assets and $631 million in deposits as of Sept. 29. The FDIC said Friday the bank's deposits will be assumed by Citizens Business Bank, based in Ontario, Calif. Its five branches will reopen Monday as branches of Citizens Business Bank. San Joaquin Bank's failure is expected to cost the FDIC's insurance fund $103 million.

Peanut products doing just fine after health scare

WASHINGTON (AP)—Go figure: Food makers processed more peanuts over the past year than nearly any other time on record despite a national salmonella outbreak blamed for killing nine people and scaring consumers away from peanut products for months. Peanut farmers who once feared $1 billion in losses are chalking up their good fortune to a bad economy that has more people reaching for peanut butter as a cheap lunch. Agriculture Department numbers back up the theory. Peanuts used for peanut butter set an all-time record at 1.1 billion pounds, topping the previous year's total by 100 million pounds.

SEC: Ponzi scheme targeted Haitians in Fla., NJ

MIAMI (AP)—Three men are accused of running a Ponzi scheme that scammed more than $14 million from hundreds of Haitian-American investors in South Florida and New Jersey. In a complaint filed Friday, the Securities and Exchange Commission said Ronnie Eugene Bass Jr., Abner Alabre and Brian Taglieri promised to double their clients' money every 90 days through their HomePals Investment Club. Bass, 35, of Miami, invested no more than $1.2 million of the $14.3 million collected from investors, and suffered trading losses of 20 percent, authorities said.

Report: Feds probing Toys R Us over baby products

NEW YORK (AP)—The federal government is reportedly investigating whether Toys R Us Inc. has improperly acted to discourage discounting and keep the prices consumers pay on baby products such as strollers and car seats higher than they otherwise may have been. The Wall Street Journal reported Saturday that the Federal Trade Commission is examining whether the nation's biggest toy store chain violated an 11-year-old FTC order that it avoid anticompetitive tactics that could stifle competition and keep prices high. The newspaper cited unidentified people familiar with the matter and added that it was unclear whether the probe would result in any enforcement action.

Germany confident of Opel deal

BERLIN (AP)—The German government has rejected European concerns over its role in the sale of carmaker Opel to a consortium led by Magna, saying they were based on misunderstandings that could be cleared up. Germany's economy minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg said Saturday that he did not see any reason to reopen negotiations over the decision for the Magna consortium to buy a majority stake in Ruesselsheim, Germany-based Adam Opel GmbH, and expressed belief the European Commission concerns could be addressed. GM is expected to sell a majority of Opel to Canadian auto parts maker Magna International and Russian lender Sberbank—a consortium heavily favored by Berlin—under a deal announced in September.

Iraq approves oil deal with BP-led consortium

BAGHDAD (AP)—The Iraqi government said Saturday it has approved a contract with a British-Chinese consortium to develop a prized oil field in southern Iraq, a significant achievement for a country that has struggled to attract foreign investors despite its vast natural resource wealth. The deal was the only one to emerge from a disappointing bidding round in June offering development rights for six oil and two gas fields.

Nation

Sheriff: Charges will be filed in balloon saga

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP)—A Colorado sheriff said he was pursuing criminal charges in the case of a 6-year-old boy who vanished into the rafters of his garage while the world thought he was zooming through the sky in a flying saucer-like helium balloon.

The boy's parents, Richard and Mayumi Heene, met with Larimer County investigators for much of the afternoon, but Sheriff Jim Alderden didn't say who would be charged or what the charges would be.

Alderden didn't call Thursday's hours-long drama a hoax, but he expressed disappointment that he couldn't level more serious charges in the incident, which sent police and the military scrambling to save young Falcon Heene as millions of worried television viewers watched.

"We were looking at Class 3 misdemeanor, which hardly seems serious enough given the circumstances," Alderden said. "We are talking to the district attorney, federal officials to see if perhaps there aren't additional federal charges that are appropriate in this circumstance."

Criminally insane, but out on the street

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Phillip A. Paul in 1987 was declared criminally insane for killing an elderly woman after voices in his head told him she was a witch.

Instead of being straitjacketed and locked away as might be depicted by film or fiction, Paul in the past two decades has spent time living and working in downtown Spokane, fathered a child, created music videos and racked up $85,000 in credit card bills.

His escape during a recent field trip to a county fair exposed a little known truth: The criminally insane often live among us, with little or no supervision.

"Why was he allowed to take such a trip?" an incredulous Gov. Chris Gregoire demanded. "Why did they go to a location that was so heavily populated with families?"

That's a question many in Washington are asking after the Sept. 17 escape, including the escapee's own brother.

"He is in a bad mental state," said Tom Paul of Sunnyside. "Why would you load him up on a bus and take him to a fair?"

ACROSS THE NATION

3rd person dies in Ariz. sweat lodge ceremony case

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—A Minnesota woman who was hospitalized with damage to multiple organs after she was overcome in an Arizona sweat lodge ceremony died Saturday, sheriff's officials said. The death of 49-year-old Liz Neuman brings the total number of deaths from the Oct. 8 incident at a resort near Sedona to three, Yavapai County sheriff's spokesman Dwight D'Evelyn said. Authorities are treating the deaths as homicides, but no charges have been filed. Neuman was among more than 50 people crowded inside the sweat lodge run by self-help guru James Arthur Ray.

Air Force: Missing pilot likely died instantly

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. (AP)—An Air Force pilot likely died instantly when his F-16 fighter jet collided with another over the Atlantic Ocean, authorities said Saturday. The search for Capt. Nicholas Giglio, who has been missing since Thursday night's crash, was shifted to a recovery effort looking for the plane's wreckage. Investigators believe the bottom of the other jet struck the top of Giglio's fighter and pierced the pilot's canopy, Air Force Col. Joe Guastella said. The other pilot was not injured and was able to land his plane safely. Investigators came to their conclusion using data gathered from the second plane and an interview with the other pilot.

Police: Calif. mom shoots her young sons, kills 1

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A woman shot her two young sons Saturday, killing a 5-year-old boy and critically wounding his 1-year-old brother, police said. The woman—26-year-old La' Tonya Dixon—called 911 at about 8:30 a.m. and told a dispatcher that she had killed her children, Los Angeles police Officer Norma Eisenman said. When police arrived at the apartment complex in South Los Angeles, Dixon was standing on a second-floor balcony waving a handgun and telling officers to shoot her, police said. The 5-year-old was declared dead at the scene, Eisenman said. The younger boy was shot multiple times and remained in critical condition at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on Saturday night.

NASA photos show moon strike created plume

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NASA's much-hyped mission to hurl a spacecraft into the moon turned out some worthwhile data after all, scientists said. New images show a mile-high plume of lunar debris from the Cabeus crater shortly after the space agency's Centaur rocket struck Oct. 9. "We were blown away by the data returned," Anthony Colaprete, the mission's chief scientist, said in a report Friday from the Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif., which managed the launch. "The team is working hard on the analysis, and the data appear to be of very high quality." By creating the debris cloud, scientists were able to use the $79-million Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite to sample and study the dust.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
CUC-IFB-10-002

Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids from qualified individuals or firms for the Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The tank # 106 has been out of operation for more than 2 years while the tank # 105 is still in use.

A mandatory site visit and pre-bid meeting is scheduled for October 19x, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. local time at CUC Power Plant 1 Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10 – 002 – Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **Friday, October 30, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.**, local time, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

The Scope-of-Work and Bid package will be **e-mailed**, upon request, to all interested bidders, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., local time, **until October 23, 2009**. Contractors are advised that the work will be carried our as a part of CUC response actions under the consent decree noted as Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO 2).

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, October 22, 2009,** to and Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, power Generation Managing Engineer via email at venu@cucgov.net or Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net or Ms. Rebecca Grimes via email at beckyg@cucgov.net.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

/s/TIMOTHY M. CONNOR
Legal Counsel

/s/ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB09-005

This ad is paid with HUD Funds by NMHC

Ground Maintenance Services for NMHC's Properties in Tinian

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids from interested, licensed companies in the Commonwealth to provide ground maintenance services for its properties in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested firms may pick up Bid Specifications at the NMHC Office in Garapan, Saipan and at its Field Office in San Jose Village, Tinian, beginning Monday, September 21, 2009, from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Field Office located in the Juan King Building in San Jose Village on Thursday, October 8, 2009, at 10:30 a.m.. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivision and other properties owned by NMHC to be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visits are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements, and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-ITB09-005**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m., local time October 19, 2009**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, October 19, 2009**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 19, 2009**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **October 28, 2009**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m., local time, October 29, 2009**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m., local time on October 19, 2009.**

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

The Commonwealth Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined by the government to be in its best interest. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

For information, call the NMHC Office in Tinian at 433-9213 or the Central Office in Garapan Saipan, during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

/s/
HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer

World

Evacuations as new typhoon threatens Philippines

Philippine plane crash in Manila suburb kills 4

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A propeller-driven plane on a test flight crashed and burst into flames in a suburb of the Philippine capital on Saturday, killing at least four people onboard, airport officials said.

The DC-3 plane scraped the roofs of 14 houses in Las Pinas city before it crashed into an abandoned warehouse, but no one was immediately reported injured on the ground, police said. Local residents said two houses close to the warehouse caught fire.

The charred remains of four people have been recovered at the site, Manila airport security manager Angel Atutubo said.

The plane departed Manila airport for Puerto Princesa city in Palawan province southwest of Manila around noon, but the pilot turned the plane back minutes later asking for permission for an emergency landing, Atutubo said.

AP

The tail of a plane is seen as firefighters try to extinguish a fire after it crashes into a neighborhood warehouse Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009 in suburban Las Pinas, south of Manila, Philippines.

The plane owned by Victoria Air Inc. was on a test flight, Manila airport operations manager Octavio Lina said. The company could not be reached for comment.

The flight manifest showed seven people on board, including the pilot, but crash investigators could not immediately confirm that number of people was on the plane, Atutubo said. Hours after firefighters put out the fire caused by the crash, only four bodies had been found, he said.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police went door-to-door urging residents to leave landslide-ravaged areas of the northern Philippines on Saturday in a "pre-emptive evacuation" as a new typhoon loomed after recent back-to-back storms killed more than 750 people, officials said.

Forecasters said Typhoon Lupit—the Filipino word for cruel—had intensified overnight and by late Saturday was packing winds of 87 mile per hour (140 kilometer per hour) and gusts of up to 106 mph (170 kph).

The Philippines is still recovering from Tropical Storm Ketsana in late September, which triggered the worst flooding in Manila in over 40 years, and the Oct. 3 landfall of Typhoon Parma, which lingered for a week while drenching the main island of Luzon. The two storms killed 773 people and affected more than 7 million.

In Benguet province's Cordillera mountain region, Gov. Nestor Fongwan said he had ordered police officers to go house-to-house to tell people to leave ahead of Typhoon Lupit, which could reach the Philippines by Tuesday.

"Definitely, they must go," Fongwan told The Associated Press. At least 288 died in storm-fueled landslides in the area about 130 miles (210 kilometers) north of the capital, Manila.

While Typhoon Lupit was days away and could still change course, officials said early action was necessary. Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro, who also heads the National Disaster Coordinating Council, said people in areas still recovering would be easier to persuade to leave their homes in a "pre-emptive evacuation."

Evacuating early "might be a much easier endeavor now," Teodoro told reporters in Manila, the capital.

Lupit could still spare the saturated northern Philippines and veer north toward Taiwan early next week, or it could track the same devastating path as Typhoon Parma, which lingered for a week and dumped more rain after making landfall in the north on Oct. 3, chief government forecaster Nathaniel Cruz said.

WORLD BRIEFS

3 US troops killed in bomb attacks in Afghanistan

KABUL (AP)—The NATO-led coalition says bomb attacks have killed three American troops in Afghanistan. The international force says two American troops were killed in an explosion in the troubled nation's east on Friday. Another U.S. service member was killed the same day in a bombing in the south. The coalition announced the deaths in a statement Saturday. No further details were released. The deaths bring to 28 the number of American service members killed in Afghanistan this month, according to an Associated Press count.

Blaze at fireworks warehouse kills 32 in India

NEW DELHI (AP)—A blaze erupted at a fireworks warehouse in southern India, killing at least 32 people and injuring 10 others ahead of a major Hindu festival Saturday. The victims in Friday night's explosion were mainly traders buying fireworks in bulk as millions of Hindus prepared to celebrate Deepavali, the festival of lights, the Press Trust of India news agency reported. Setting off fireworks is a major part of the celebration's evening festivities. Police pulled 32 bodies, most of them charred remains, from the warehouse in Pallipat near Chennai, the capital of the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Australian teen sailor starts round-the-world bid

SYDNEY (AP)—A 16-year-old Australian steered her bright pink yacht out of Sydney Harbor on Sunday to start her bid to become the youngest person to sail solo and unassisted around the world. Jessica Watson's plan to make a 23,600 mile (38,000 kilometer) journey through some of the world's most treacherous waters sparked a debate in Australia about whether someone so young should be allowed to try such a potentially dangerous feat. Watson and her family insist she is an experienced and capable sailor, and although she will sail solo and unassisted, she does have a strong support team to help if any dangers arise.

Canadian police seize ship off coast

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP)—A ship carrying 76 migrant workers has been seized off Canada's Pacific coast, officials said Saturday. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Sgt. Duncan Pound said those on board said they had hoped to reach Canada. Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan said there were preliminary indications the ship originated in Sri Lanka, though he stressed that information had not been confirmed. The ship, sailing under the name "Ocean Lady," was intercepted by Canadian authorities late Friday afternoon. It was escorted by a navy frigate and two RCMP vessels to Victoria Vancouver Island, where it docked Saturday evening.

Rio gangs shoot down police chopper, 2 cops dead

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Drug traffickers shot down a police helicopter during a gunbattle between rival gangs Saturday, killing two officers and injuring four in a burst of violence just two weeks after the city was chosen to host the 2016 Olympic Games. Ten suspected drug traffickers were also killed during the fighting in a shantytown, and two bystanders were injured, officials said. Bullets flying from the Morro dos Macacos ("Monkey Hill" in Portuguese) slum in northern Rio de Janeiro tore into the helicopter and hit the pilot in the leg as he hovered above the shootout, causing him to lose control and crash.

Truck bomb destroys key bridge in western Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—A suicide bomber driving a dynamite-laden truck destroyed a key bridge Saturday on a highway used by the departing U.S. military, while separate attacks killed nine Iraqis, most of them security force members, police said. There were no casualties in the blast that destroyed the bridge outside the city of Ramadi, which is about 70 miles (125 kilometers) west of Baghdad, said a local police officer. The highway is used heavily by the U.S. military to transport equipment out of the country, and is also a major roadway for civilian traffic. The highway links Iraq to neighboring Syria and Jordan, where many Iraqis fled to escape sectarian violence.

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

1st AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Procurement and Installation of Standby Generator and Building
Port of Saipan
Project No. CPA-SS-002-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), through a grant from the Office of Homeland Security, is requesting for proposals for design/build services for procurement and installation of one (1) brand new generator with controls, housing and fuel tank to be situated at the Port of Saipan.
A detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, September 11, 2009. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on ~~**Friday, September 25, 2009 at 3:00 pm**~~ at the Conference Room at the CPA Seaport Administrative Building. The project scope of work and location of the generator will be discussed. Attendance at this conference is mandatory for all companies interested in submitting proposals.

The contract period for design, installation and testing will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2009.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com no later than Oct. 19, 2009.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EDWARD B. MENDIOLA
Acting Executive Director

Date: October 14, 2009

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
NMHC RFP09-001

Financial & Compliance Audit for FY 2009 & 2010
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD Funds)

The Corporate Director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), a subsidiary corporation of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is soliciting sealed proposals to perform a financial and compliance audit of NMHC for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2009 and 2010. This procurement is being conducted pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 70-30.3, specifically § 70-30.3-210).

One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked/stamped "Confidential" and labeled "NMHC RFP09-001," for FY 2009 and 2010 Audit Proposal to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m., October 23, 2009.

The audit guidelines and specifications for this audit may be picked up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI Holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Edith C. Fejeran, Office Manager, at telephone numbers (670) 234-6866/7689, fax 234-9021 or email ecfejeran@nmhc.gov.mp

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Health & Fitness

Swine flu claims 11 kids in US

WASHINGTON (AP)—As the swine flu outbreak strikes the U.S. early and hard, health officials note a worrisome number of child deaths and warn that supplies of vaccine will remain scarce for at least the next couple of weeks.

Delays in producing the vaccine mean 28 million to 30 million doses, at most, will be divided around the country by the end of the month, not the 40 million-plus states had been expecting. The new count from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention means anxiously awaited flu-shot clinics in some parts of the U.S. may have to be postponed.

It also delays efforts to blunt increasing infections. Overall, what CDC calls the 2009 H1N1 flu is causing widespread disease in 41 states, and about 6 percent of all doctor visits are for flu-like illness—levels not normally seen until much later in the fall.

Federal health officials said Friday 11 more children have died in the past week because of the virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says about half of the child deaths since September have been among teenagers.

AP

Vinyet Burns, 6, gets the H1N1 flu mist vaccine from nurse Nancy Drenga at the DEHEC office in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009. The mist contains a live but weakened version of the virus. DEHEC is giving out the vaccination through appointments only.

And overall for the country, deaths from pneumonia and flu-like illnesses have passed what CDC considers an epidemic level.

"These are very sobering statistics," says the CDC's Dr. Anne Schuchat.

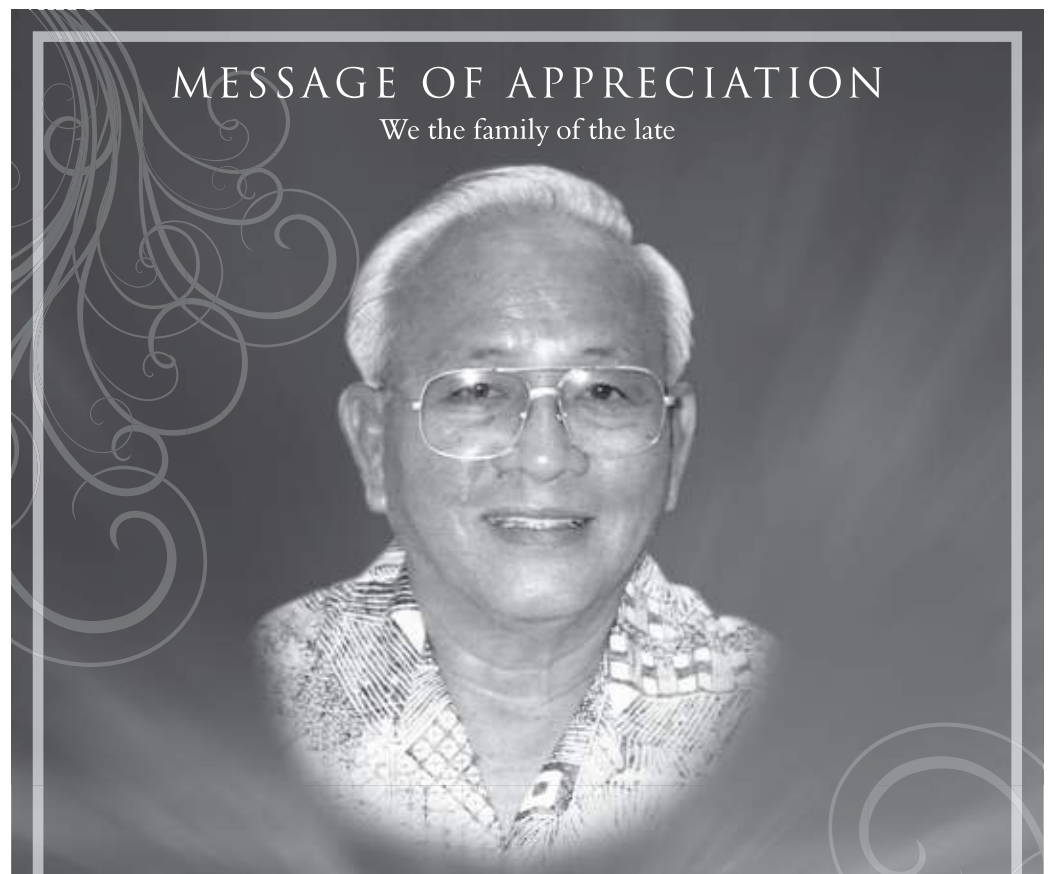
This new strain is different from regular winter flu because it strikes the young far more than the old, and child deaths are drawing particular attention. Eighty-six children have died of swine flu in the U.S. since it burst on the scene last spring—43 of those deaths reported in September and early October alone, said Schuchat.

That's a startling number because in some past winters, the CDC has counted 40 or 50 child deaths for the entire flu season, she said, and no one knows how long this swine flu outbreak will last.

Also in contrast to regular winter flu, swine flu sometimes can cause a very severe viral pneumonia in otherwise healthy young adults, the World Health Organization warned.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

We the family of the late



Dr. Jose Lujan Chong

would like to extend our deepest and sincerest gratitude to our many relatives and friends who in one way or another gave precious time and generosity to share our moment with us as we said farewell to our dearly beloved father, grandfather and great grandfather.

We extend our special thanks to His Excellency Bishop Tomas A. Camacho and the Clergy of the Diocese and Kristo Rai, Kristo Rai Altar Servers, Kantaye Kristo Rai Choir, Mrs. Marcy Cepeda (Techa), Nick Bailas and Esther Fleming, CHC doctors and nurses.

From the Family

Fifth Death Anniversary

Lovingly Remembering...

Maria Ada DeLeon Guerrero

"Mariquitan Bodig" / "Tan Marikit"

In joyful celebration of her new life, we the children together with our families, humbly invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayer at the daily masses of intention being offered at 6:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral for our BELOVED MOTHER.

The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 6:00 a.m. followed with an appreciation breakfast to be served at the Joeten-Daidai Social Hall.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

ALICIA, JAMES, PAULINE, LOUISE, ELAINE,
JOCELYN, CARLYN, BERTHA, BRIDGETTE AND FAMILIES

The Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly. In death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide.
And though we cannot see you, you are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same.
But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.
~AUTHOR UNKNOWN~

Life & Style

Depp, Richards light up Spike TV's 'Scream 2009'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Fans dressed as vampires, zombies, monsters and mummies descended on the Greek Theatre Saturday for "Scream 2009," a Spike TV special that honors sci-fi, horror, fantasy and comic-inspired films and TV shows.

"It's crazy," said "Dexter" star Julie Benz. "It's a real loud, rock 'n' roll show."

Rock 'n' roll indeed: Fans welcomed Keith Richards with a standing ovation as Johnny Depp presented the legendary Rolling Stones guitarist with the Rock Immortal award.

"I liked the living legend, that was all right, but immortal is even better," Richards said in an interview before accepting his award.

Quentin Tarantino continued the celebration of the immortal as he paid tribute to "Night of the Living Dead" director George A. Romero with the Scream Mastermind award.

The star-studded event was taped Saturday and is scheduled to air as a two-hour special on Oct. 27. Jessica Alba, Kate Bosworth, Harrison Ford, Justin Long and Christina Ricci helped present the spike-shaped trophies to their peers.

The show opened with a larger-than-life snow globe inhabited by two creepy little girls. They emerged from the orb and as one girl slashed her throat, the other started bleeding from the neck. Keeping the creep-factor constant, a zombie piano player appeared later in the show.

Fans voted online for the winners, so some of the year's most popular films and TV shows took home trophies. "True Blood" was a four-time winner, taking honors for best TV show, along with best villain for Alexander Skarsgard and best horror actor and actress for real-life couple Steven Moyer and Anna Paquin.

AP

Johnny Depp presents Keith Richards with the Rock Immortal award at the "Scream Awards" on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009, in Los Angeles.

"Twilight" won twice: Best fantasy film and breakout performance for star Taylor Lautner, who showed world-premiere footage from the film's next installment, "New Moon."

"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" also won a pair of prizes: Megan Fox was voted best sci-fi actress and Isabel Lucas was recognized for her breakout performance as an evil shape-shifting robot.

Celebrities arrived on a checkered carpet flanked by costumed fans while two women wearing angel wings—and little else—sat in swings suspended overhead.

"It kind of reminds me of Comic-Con," said "Watchmen" star Jackie Earle Haley, who plays Freddy Kruger in the reboot of "Nightmare on Elm Street." "It's just awesome."

O'Brien, NJ mayor turn facetious feud into comedy

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Conan O'Brien and Newark Mayor Cory Booker turned their frivolous feud about the gritty city into comedy on NBC's "Tonight Show" on Friday.

The chatty 40-somethings worked off one another like a comic duo. But the jokes eventually gave way to a plug for Booker's efforts to fashion a national blueprint for urban transformation in Newark, long an icon for urban decay, and a $100,000 donation to his Newark Now charity from O'Brien and NBC.

Booker

Booker's appearance on O'Brien's show culminated a facetious feud that began Sept. 23 with O'Brien joking that Booker's new health care program consisted of a bus ticket out of Newark, which is just west of New York City and is often scarred by violence. The mayor responded with a humorous video on YouTube in which he banned O'Brien from Newark Liberty International Airport.

"Many jokes are made about Newark by comedians," O'Brien said on Friday's show. "You honed in on me like a cruise missile. Why me, Mayor Booker?"

"When there's a herd going after you, you have to sort of look at the weakest gazelle," Booker joked.

The 15-minute segment, taped in California, confirmed Booker's newfound status as a national figure in U.S. politics, said Robert Thompson, a Syracuse University professor of television and popular culture.

"They were like Abbott and Costello," Thompson said. "Those two could go on the road."

The symbiotic relationship comes at an ideal time for O'Brien, who took over as "Tonight" host in June, after Jay Leno's 17 years on the job. The show averages about 2.6 million viewers a night with O'Brien, compared with more than 4.5 million for Leno, and has been trying to attract younger viewers.

Birkhead says he saw Anna Nicole Smith take drugs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The father of Anna Nicole Smith's daughter has testified that the ex-Playboy Playmate "took more medications than I've ever seen anyone take," and that he complained about it to a doctor now charged with conspiring to provide Smith with controlled substances.

However, Larry Birkhead acknowledged the celebrity model had an array of ailments, including back pain and seizures, and each required specific medication.

A defense lawyer led Birkhead on Friday through descriptions of the illnesses to suggest Smith was being properly medicated by her doctors.

"I was concerned that Anna was taking too many medications," said Birkhead, a photographer who moved in with Smith in 2004 after a romance that began at a Kentucky Derby party.

He said he raised the drug issue during a visit to Dr. Sandeep Kapoor in mid-2005 about a minor ailment. Kapoor was Smith's physician at the time.

"At the end of the visit, I said to him she might be taking medicine from someone else in addition to him," Birkhead testified.

"What did Dr. Kapoor say?" prosecutor Renee Rose asked.

"He said, 'I believe we have that under control now,' and that's all that he said," Birkhead replied.

Kapoor, Howard K. Stern, Smith's boyfriend-lawyer, and Dr. Khristine Eroshevich are charged with conspiring to illegally provide controlled substances to Smith. All three have pleaded not guilty.

The defendants are not charged with Smith's death at a Florida hotel in February 2007, which was ruled an accidental overdose.

Birkhead took the stand at a preliminary hearing to determine if the defendants should stand trial. The hearing recessed until Monday with Birkhead still testifying.

During cross-examination by attorney Steve Sadow, who represents Stern, Birkhead provided a rundown of Smith's physical problems that included back pain from having breast implants, swelling of her hands, restless leg syndrome and intense headaches including migraines.

She was once hospitalized for a dislocated shoulder after falling out of bed and was plagued by pain after that, Birkhead said, adding she also had a miscarriage before he met her.

"It seems I'm missing something," he said as he recited her ailments. "There were so many of them."

Birkhead said he witnessed 10 to 20 seizures by Smith, with one coming the night before she was to appear at the American Music Awards. She managed to do the show by taking two anti-seizure drugs and downing three high-energy drinks but consuming nothing else, he said.

Superior Court Judge Robert J. Perry asked to view again a video of that appearance to see if Birkhead thought she looked normal or was "loaded on something."

Birkhead said she was nervous, but most of her behavior was typical of her high-energy public appearances.

Asked to describe his relationship with Stern, Birkhead replied: "Icy."

"We clashed a lot. He would get into the personal relationship between Anna and me," Birkhead said. "I don't think he was happy that I was there."

After Smith died, Birkhead waged a paternity battle with Stern, who claimed he had fathered the model's daughter, Dannielynn. Birkhead won the dispute after producing DNA proof that he was the father. The little girl now lives with him.

Clooney promotes 'Up in the Air' at Rome film fest

Clooney

ROME (AP)—George Clooney says there is a lot he can relate to in his new movie "Up in the Air," a comic drama about a man who travels across the United States to lay off people amid the financial crisis.

Like his character, Clooney says he has worked around the clock, at times to the detriment of his friendships and family relations. And while he doesn't fire people for a living, Clooney says he had his fair share of layoffs before becoming a Hollywood star.

"There are a lot of things about this guy I understand," Clooney said of his character, speaking at the Rome Film Festival where the Jason Reitman movie was presented Saturday. "Part of it is—and a good portion of it is—that you can spend a large part of your time literally up in the air, you can spend it working and missing part of your life."

"I spent a long time unemployed and when you are broke and unemployed, when you finally start working you don't wanna stop," Clooney said. "Sometimes when you do that you'll end up missing your family, your friends, people that you care about."

Clooney's character, corporate downsizing expert Ryan Bingham, is busier than ever as companies struggle in the financial crisis. As he travels across America, he tries to rack up a million frequent-flyer miles.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Belated happy birthday to a wonderful grandmother, great grandmother, mother, sister, auntie, godmother and friend, Magdalena M. Cabrera, who celebrated her birthday last Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009. Much love and birthday wishes coming from your grandchildren, your great-grandson Caleb, your children, your godchildren, your brothers, sisters, and in laws, and all your nieces and nephews!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A happy birthday shoutout goes to Evelyn Jurado Sablan. We love you, Mama Lyn, from your family on Saipan and in the Philippines.

Michael Jackson's ex-wife seeking $500K in lawsuit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Florida woman who told a television interviewer that Michael Jackson's ex-wife was only interested in getting money from the singer's family and wasn't interested in gaining custody of her two children is being sued.

In a filing last week, Deborah Rowe's attorneys said the mother of Jackson's two oldest children should be awarded $490,000 in general and punitive damages.

Rowe sued Rebecca White in July for White's comments to the television show "Extra." White hasn't responded to the lawsuit and Rowe is seeking a default judgment against the Key West, Fla. resident.

Rowe's defamation and invasion-of-privacy lawsuit sought to recoup any money that White may have been paid for the interview, which aired in July. Rowe's attorneys estimated those earnings at $100,000 on a court filing.

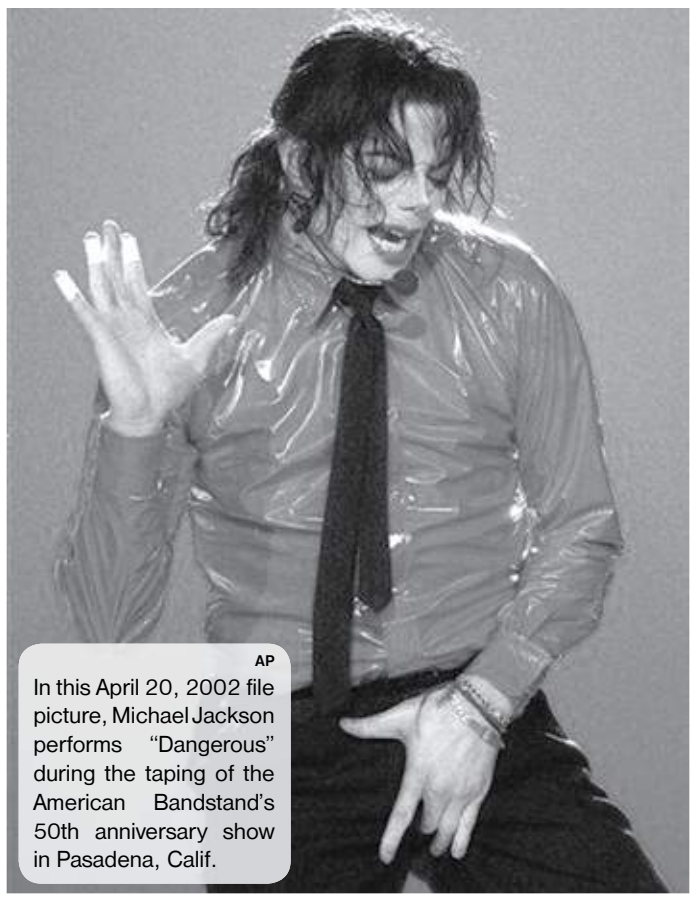
They are also seeking $100,000 for emotional distress, $45,000 for medical and attorney's fees and $245,000 in punitive damages.

A hearing on Rowe's petition to issue a default judgment against White is scheduled for November.

Rowe has some visitation rights with the two children under an August agreement with the singer's mother. No money is believed to have changed hands in the arrangement.

Stories aired by "Extra" were based on White's description of e-mails she said were exchanged with Rowe after Jackson's June 25 death. Rowe, 50, denies she sent any recent e-mails to White.

White was described in the segments as a "close friend" who said Rowe had emphatically stated in an e-mail exchange that she didn't want custody of Jackson's children. Rowe's attorneys have denied that White and Rowe are friends.



AP

In this April 20, 2002 file picture, Michael Jackson performs "Dangerous" during the taping of the American Bandstand's 50th anniversary show in Pasadena, Calif.

Tokyo film festival opens with 'green' carpet

AP

U.S. actress Sigourney Weaver reacts as she gives her autographs to fans upon arrival at a "green" carpet for the screening of her latest film "Avatar" at the opening of the Tokyo International Film Festival in Tokyo, Japan, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009.

TOKYO (AP)—The Tokyo International Film Festival opened with stars including Hollywood actress Sigourney Weaver strolling a "green" carpet made of recycled plastic bottles.

The theme of the nine-day festival, which started Saturday and will feature more than 100 movies, is ecology. Films include "The Cove," a documentary that depicts an annual hunt of dolphins in Japan. Festival organizers added it at the last minute in part because of pressure from overseas.

While the movie has won more than a dozen awards worldwide, it is not among the 15 Japanese and foreign films competing for the festival's top prize of $50,000.

"The Cove" has provoked outrage over the dolphin hunt in the seaside town of Taiji in southwestern Japan, where 2,000 dolphins are killed every year, mostly for meat.

The film shows fishermen banging on poles to frighten the dolphins into a cove, where they are killed with spears. The cove is closed off by barbed wire, and the movie crew had to film most footage covertly.

Japanese police say the film's American director, Louie Psihoyos, and other members of his crew violated trespassing laws.

"The Cove" will be screened Wednesday. Advance tickets for the film were already sold out, festival spokeswoman Haruna Koike said.

NYC neighbor sues Madonna over loud music, dancing

NEW YORK (AP)—One of Madonna's New York neighbors says the superstar's loud music and frequent dance sessions are causing a commotion.

Karen George, of Manhattan, lives above Madonna in a building on Central Park.

She said in a lawsuit filed Friday against the building's co-op board that the Material Girl is using her apartment as a rehearsal studio, forcing neighbors to endure "blaring music, stomping and shaking walls," for up to three hours each day.

George complained about "unreasonably high-decibel, amplified music" and vibrations pouring through walls, ceilings and radiators.

The building's board says it has already threatened to evict Madonna.

Madonna's representatives didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Man who reported stolen Warhols waives insurance

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A prominent art collector who reported stolen 11 original silk screen paintings by Andy Warhol has waived the insurance policy he owns to protect the art, authorities said Thursday.

Collector Richard L. Weisman said he couldn't take the thought of insurance investigators poring through his records and questioning family and friends.

"They turn you into a suspect," Weisman told the Seattle Times. "I just finally told them, 'I'm not going to go through it for three to five years. Forget it. ... That's the only reason, and it's a good enough reason."

Police Detective Mark Sommer confirmed Weisman's move to the Los Angeles Times and said Weisman has been difficult to track down.

"It is curious," Sommer said. "We'd like to talk to him about it."

The missing paintings were discovered by the family's longtime nanny at Weisman's Los Angeles home Sept. 3. Weisman was in Seattle at the time.

Police said there was no forced entry, a home alarm system was not on, and other valuable works of art were left untouched. There are no suspects in the case.

Harrods adds gold bars to its luxurious image

LONDON (AP)—Glittering bait for the well-heeled shopper: Harrods department store has added gold bars to its merchandise line.

The store announced Thursday that it has joined with Swiss refiner Produits Artistiques Metaux Precieux to offer gold bars weighing 27.5 pounds (12.5 kilograms). The move comes as gold prices have been going through the roof. On Wednesday, they hit another record high of $1,072 an ounce.

Based on Thursday's afternoon gold fixing price in New York, a gold bar would cost about $462,440. Customers can buy the gold through Harrods financial arm Harrods Bank, which is located in the central London's department store.

"The financial environment has kindled a new demand for physical gold amongst private investors in Britain," said Chris Hall, head of Harrods Gold Bullion.

"Up until now, however, London has had no well-recognized name serving this market," he added. Many investors believe it is currently safer to invest in gold than in stocks, property, or currencies.

Family's recorded history is now a matter of memory

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: When our first grandchild was born, my son, "Vic," and his wife bought the first video camera in the family. I often asked them to bring it to family get-togethers, and to help out, I purchased dozens of long-running, high-quality tapes.

We didn't buy a lot of toys for the kids. We made memories instead—a trip to the circus, renting out the roller rink for the entire family, and holding "sports championships" in our yard. All of the fun was captured on tape. Our family grew, babies became teenagers, and we had a growing pile of tapes.

Two years ago, my husband died unexpectedly. I felt as though my life had been torn to shreds. I was slow getting over the shock.

Recently I finally felt strong enough to watch the tapes again. ("Grandpa" was always in the middle of the action.) When I asked Vic to bring them over, his response was, "Mom, we don't have those videos anymore. We taped Junior's softball games over them." I said, "How could you?!" He replied, "Get over it, Mom! It's all in the past."

I was so angry, I walked out. I haven't called them since, and they haven't contacted me. I am so hurt. How could anyone have so little feeling?

RE-RECORDED IN MIAMI

DEAR RE-RECORDED: Your son's response was brutal. He owes you an apology for his rudeness and insensitivity, but he's right about one thing—the tapes are gone. He was put on the defensive, and that's why he tried to dismiss your feelings. Obviously, he thought the family would go on forever just as it was. That's why he didn't think it was important to preserve the videotaped family album. Of course, by sacrificing the past for the present, he ultimately cheated his own family and any siblings of his generation who might be interested in sharing the family history.

Fortunately, you have many happy memories in your heart of your happy marriage and the experience of raising your family. And no one can ever take those away from you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married two years to a wonderful man, but we're having problems in the bedroom. Both of us are very uncomfortable talking about our feelings, especially when it comes to sex, and I just can't explain to him what I want him to do and vice versa.

I have tried many times to say things indirectly but have never been successful. I can't talk to him directly because I am very embarrassed. This has started to destroy our marriage, and now we generally prefer to sleep alone so that we don't have to have sex.

S.O.S. IN THOUSAND OAKS, CALIF.

DEAR S.O.S.: If you want to save your marriage, you will need the assistance of an "interpreter" so you and your husband can communicate more fully. Please talk to your doctor and ask for a referral to a licensed, experienced sex therapist. (Because you find the topic of sex embarrassing to discuss, I recommend you consult a woman.)

Believe me, you are not the only couple to have this problem. In fact, so many others do that sex therapy is a specialty unto itself.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

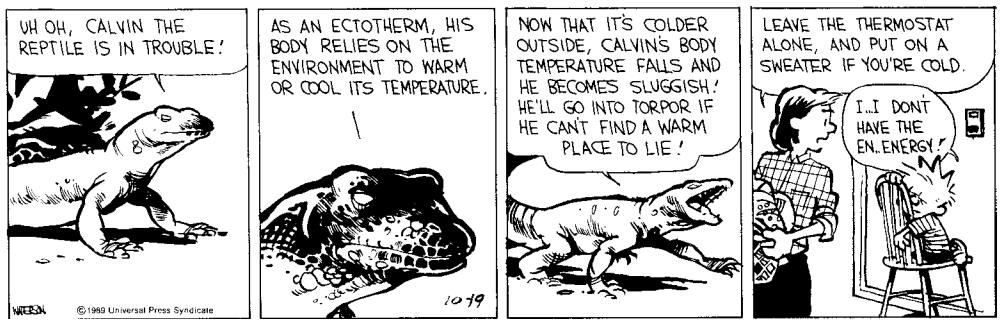
■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


UH OH, CALVIN THE REPTILE IS IN TROUBLE!
AS AN ECTOTHERM, HIS BODY RELIES ON THE ENVIRONMENT TO WARM OR COOL ITS TEMPERATURE.
NOW THAT IT'S COLDER OUTSIDE, CALVIN'S BODY TEMPERATURE FALLS AND HE BECOMES SLUGGISH! HE'LL GO INTO TORPOR IF HE CAN'T FIND A WARM PLACE TO LIE!
LEAVE THE THERMOSTAT ALONE, AND PUT ON A SWEATER IF YOU'RE COLD.
I...I DON'T HAVE THE EN..ERGY!
©1989 Universal Press Syndicate

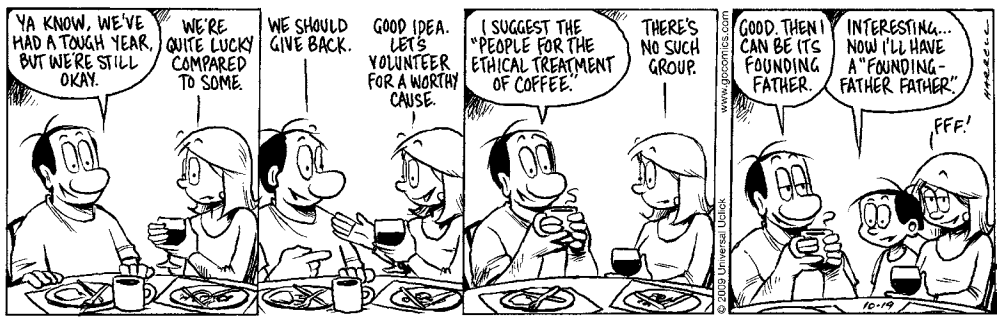
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I MUST CLAW SOMETHING!
WHEW! I FEEL MUCH BETTER
HAVE YOU SEEN MY NEW CURTAINS?
DEFINE "NEW"
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 10-19

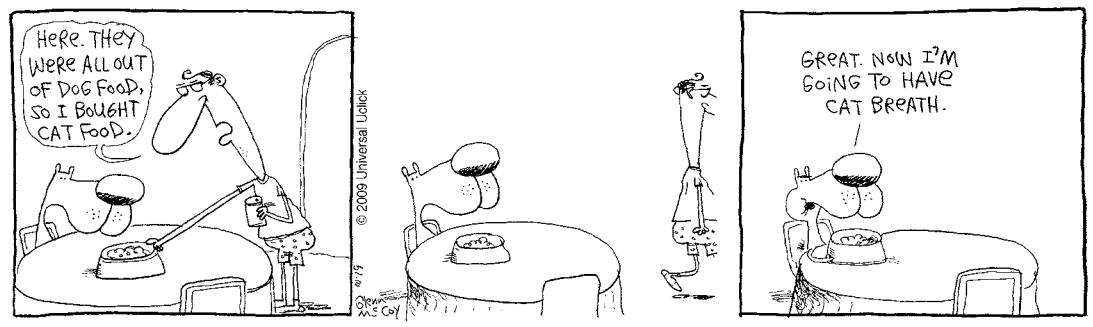
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


YA KNOW, WE'VE HAD A TOUGH YEAR, BUT WE'RE STILL OKAY.
WE'RE QUITE LUCKY COMPARED TO SOME.
WE SHOULD GIVE BACK.
GOOD IDEA. LET'S VOLUNTEER FOR A WORTHY CAUSE.
I SUGGEST THE "PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF COFFEE."
THERE'S NO SUCH GROUP.
GOOD. THEN I CAN BE ITS FOUNDING FATHER.
INTERESTING... NOW I'LL HAVE A "FOUNDING-FATHER FATHER."
FFF!
www.gocomics.com
© 2009 Universal Uclick
10-19

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

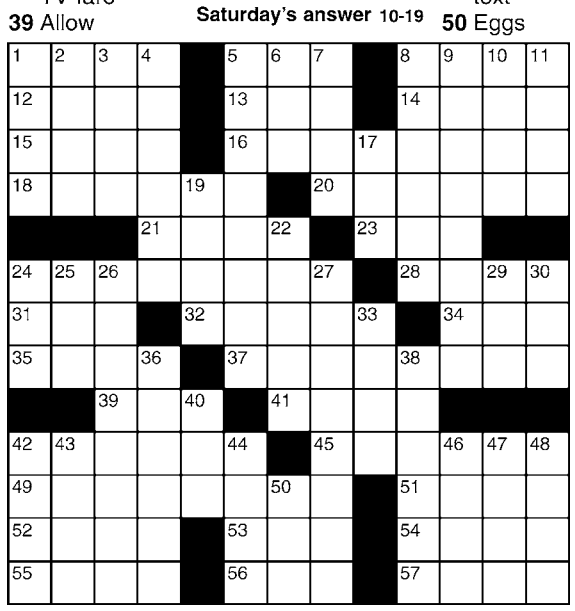
ACROSS
1 NYPD rank
5 Rotating part
8 On in years
12 U.S.
13 Hearty brew
14 Unaccompanied
15 Indian wrap
16 Liquidity measure
18 Civil War battle site in Tennessee
20 Almost not
21 Bric-a- —
23 Apiece
24 Boxing ploy
28 Uninteresting
31 Blackbird
32 Soft drinks
34 Vast expanse
35 Emcee
37 Late-night TV fare
39 Allow
41 Thin aperture
42 Bird with a fanlike crest
45 Removed the lid
49 Strong current
51 Ashen
52 "Eleni" author Nicholas
53 Rd.
54 Tablet
55 Individuals
56 Despondent
57 Otherwise

DOWN
1 Mama — Elliot
2 Asian nursemaid
3 Actress Gilpin
4 Svengali's subject
5 Sperm whale
6 — carte
7 Netting
8 Hitchcock or Tennyson
9 Yukon event
10 Carbon compound
11 Moist in the morning
17 Chance, poetically
19 Spheres
22 Songs' endings
24 "Humbug!"
25 Lennon's Yoko
26 Loosen
27 Rolled around lazily
29 Zodiac cat
30 Legislation
33 Omit
36 Reservation residences
38 Treeless tract
40 Anderson's "High —"
42 Quasimodo's creator
43 — even keel
44 Greek vowels
46 Hammer's target
47 Right angles
48 Remove from the text
50 Eggs

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	D	R	E	A	M	■	A	C	I	D	L	Y
P	A	E	L	L	A	■	M	O	N	R	O	E
T	R	I	V	E	T	■	M	A	K	I	N	G
A	N	N	E	■	T	R	O	T	■	L	E	G
■	■	■	S	A	R	A	■	I	L	L	■	■
A	S	S	■	T	E	M	P	■	O	B	O	E
N	O	T	R	E	S	P	A	S	S	I	N	G
Y	U	A	N	■	S	A	R	I	■	T	O	O
■	■	R	A	M	■	R	A	T	E	■	■	■
C	A	W	■	O	P	T	S	■	X	R	A	Y
U	G	A	N	D	A	■	I	N	T	O	N	E
T	H	R	E	E	D	■	T	A	R	O	T	S
E	A	S	E	L	S	■	E	N	A	T	E	■

Saturday's answer 10-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Omar Gooding, 33; Ty Pennington, 45; John Lithgow, 64; Simon Ward, 68

Happy Birthday: Don't let life's little aggravations get to you or hold you back. You are insightful and should be able to manipulate situations in your favor. Changes at home will end up being a blessing in disguise. Be open to the wishes of those around you, but don't give in to anything that doesn't suit your own needs. Your numbers are 5, 13, 17, 23, 26, 30, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Deal with paperwork quickly. Partnerships may pose a problem at first but, once you figure out who's doing what, you should find your load is lightened. The common ground between you and whoever you partner with will grow. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Diplomacy coupled with persistence, honesty and sticking to the facts will bring good results when dealing with colleagues, clients or peers. An opportunity will develop through someone you have worked with in the past. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): It's taking action that will bring results. Just because someone else procrastinates doesn't mean you have to. Get the facts and figures in writing. Don't let a change someone else makes spoil your plans. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Develop hobbies or activities that will take your mind off your worries. Problems with some of the people you care about will cause you grief if you aren't willing to overlook shortcomings. Rethink getting in touch with someone from your past. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Being too proud to ask for help will hold you back. Building a support system or a team that you can work alongside will lead to your popularity and success. Don't take the blame for something you didn't do or deal with responsibilities that don't belong to you. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't dig up the past unless you are prepared to face the truth. Find out what you need to know before you take on a task that may be too hard to handle on your own. Speak up, be articulate and ask for what you want. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You can expect to be confused by some of the results you get when dealing with personal matters. Before making a career change, consider your motives—if it's because of a personality clash, stay put and work it out. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A change at home will benefit you mentally, physically and financially. Offering a service that you enjoy doing will lead to extra cash. A relationship will change for the best due to the choices you make. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Set some rules if you want things to go your way. You can turn something you have to offer into a cash cow if you are unique in your presentation. There is money heading your way. Let past experience help you now. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Be willing to compromise. Someone will complain if you are too pushy. Sincerity, dedication and understanding will help. Uncertainty will arise due to a decision you made in the past. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Slow down, watch what you say and be careful while traveling. Don't let your emotions lead the way. Focus on following through with promises and making decisions that will lead to a better future. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): The choices you make now regarding partnerships, your personal life and the way you earn your living will determine how much you can accomplish. You will learn a valuable lesson from someone you've known a long time. A sudden change should be welcomed. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are bright, articulate and innovative. You are creative, experimental and opportunistic. Demonstrative actions will help you reach your goals.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		9	3		5		6	
			9	4		2		1
5					1		8	
7	4			6		3		8
	3						2	
2		5		3			1	7
	7		8					6
4		3		1	6			
	9		7		4	1		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

7	2	4	1	3	6	9	8	5
8	6	3	7	9	5	1	4	2
1	9	5	4	8	2	7	3	6
2	4	1	8	7	9	5	6	3
3	7	6	5	1	4	8	2	9
9	5	8	2	6	3	4	1	7
6	3	7	9	4	8	2	5	1
4	1	2	6	5	7	3	9	8
5	8	9	3	2	1	6	7	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/17

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

NOISE-CANCELLING HEADSETS **Solution: 9 letters**

Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	R	T	I	U	C	R	I	C
U	E	S	T	E	G	D	A	G	N	E	T	S	I	L
I	Q	L	S	N	L	E	V	E	L	I	A	T	E	D
E	U	S	I	E	E	E	X	P	E	N	S	I	V	E
T	A	Y	E	M	N	L	V	I	A	U	N	F	G	S
B	L	G	C	M	I	S	E	L	O	T	R	R	N	E
F	I	N	A	O	A	N	O	C	E	Ⓔ	A	E	I	I
I	Z	I	S	T	N	G	A	R	T	Ⓐ	M	Q	R	R
L	A	T	E	E	F	T	F	T	R	Ⓡ	R	U	E	O
T	T	U	R	O	N	E	R	E	I	Ⓢ	O	E	E	S
E	I	M	A	I	R	I	T	O	N	O	F	N	N	S
R	O	M	U	E	P	P	G	I	L	T	N	C	I	E
S	N	O	N	T	A	S	A	N	I	O	I	Y	G	C
J	A	C	K	D	E	R	N	L	E	D	O	M	N	C
L	E	V	A	R	T	P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E	A

© 2009 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 10/19

Accessories, Acoustic, Adapter, Analog, Case, Circuitry, Commuting, Control, Detail, Ears, Electronic, Elimination, Emit, Engineering, Engines, Equalization, Expensive, Filters, Flying, Foam, Form, Frequency, Gadgets, Games, Interference, Jack, Level, Listen, Model, Mute, Pressure, Quality, Quiet, Sensor, Trains, Travel, Trips

Last Saturday's Answer: Capture

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 15, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 or 29, send $6.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Uclick plus $3 postage for the first book order. $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Drunk Driving
Over the limit. Under arrest.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

FOR SALE

Brand new, professional size pool/ billiard table for sale, including setting-up. $1,900. Call 287-7676.

WOWpao
• Dimsum • Noodles • Bread • Cakes •
FOR SALE
Bakery Equipments
Located in Garapan behind DutyFree.
Please call 233-7266
*GOOD CONDITION

Great Investment Opportunity in Tinian for Sale/Lease
5 Acre total Property with the following development on site
4 Unit Apartment Building (2ea Floor, 2 stories)
■ 2 bed/1 bath ■ Semi-Furnished, Major Appliances including Air Conditioning
■ Spacious Patio and Balcony ■ Power, Water, Cable and Telephone Ready
■ Great Ocean View Over-looking San Jose Village and Tinian Harbor
Maintenance/Storage Shed also on Site.
For appointment to Visit, Please call 670-483-4597 or 670-235-5572

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

I D
PINKIE
D G
E I
X T

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

JOB VACANCY

AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN

JOB DESCRIPTION: • 5 yrs. min. experience on air conditioning and refrigeration field including instaltation, service, troubleshoot and repair of units. Equipment to include commercial chill water/air cooled systems, commercial/residential DX systems, commercial refrigeration system including ice machines, coolers, and freezers. • Holder of EPA License, Min 5 yrs. • Has own basic tools of the trade.

Apply at: **JWS Air Conditioning and Refrigeration**
Tel.: 235-5572 • Fax resume to 235-5573 or E-mail to jwssaipan@pticom.com

WHATZIT Solution: Fingers crossed

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: September 18, 2009 **Closing date: October 23, 2009**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

1 (one) Executive Director
1 (one) Staff Engineer

Employment Application must be accompanied with a first copy of all required diploma/certificates, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, October 23, 2009.***

Minimum Qualifications:

Executive Director: Possess a four (4) year degree from an accredited U.S. University with no less than ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience in either of the following field: management, engineering, financial, aviation and/or maritime industry. Must have managerial and leadership experience acceptable to the Board of Directors.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Staff Engineering: Possess a four (4) year degree in civil engineering from an accredited U.S. university with no less than seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional engineering level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact the Executive Director by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ **EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**
Executive Director

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
'CUC unlikely to meet EPA deadlines'
9 percent drop in foreign investors
Saipan Tribune
Sport
Schuler in r
Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
235- NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Tebow, Florida escape with 23-20 win over Arkansas

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Tim Tebow stood on the sideline with his eyes closed. He couldn't bear to watch, not after seeing so much go wrong all afternoon. Maybe he should have peeked. After all, he missed what might go down as the most important field goal in Florida history.

Tebow directed a 69-yard drive in the final minutes, setting up Caleb Sturgis' 27-yard field goal with 9 seconds remaining that gave the top-ranked Gators a 23-20 win against Arkansas on Saturday.

"Once I heard everybody cheering and opened my eyes and saw we made the field goal, that was fun," Tebow said.

The rest of the game wasn't nearly as enjoyable.

On a day when little went right for the Gators (6-0, 4-0 Southeastern Conference), Tebow took over down the stretch and helped extend the nation's longest win streak to 16 games. He threw for 255 yards and a touchdown, ran for 69 more and saved his best plays for when Florida needed him most.

That final drive may have been Tebow's Heisman moment. It kept Florida unbeaten and likely No. 1 in the country. It also may have preserved the team's chances of repeating as national champion.

"I always knew we had a shot," Tebow said. "We were just going to keep believing until the last second."

The 2007 Heisman Trophy winner threw for 30 yards and ran for 22 on the final drive. Three plays stood out: His 12-yard pass to Riley Cooper on third down (Cooper fell down, then caught the ball on one knee) and consecutive runs that gained 16 yards and put Sturgis well within his comfort zone.

Sturgis overcame an early miss and finished with three field goals, including a 51-yarder in the third. For much of the day, it was Florida's best play.

Just about everything that could go wrong for the Gators did. They had four turnovers, three dropped passes, were gashed against the run and gave up more big plays in one game than they had all season. They missed a field goal and scored once in their first four trips inside the 20-yard line.

"You usually don't win that kind of game," coach Urban Meyer said.

But after struggling to move the ball on a relatively cool, sun-drenched afternoon, Tebow led the Gators to scores on three of their final four possessions.

He hooked up with Deonte Thompson on a 77-yard TD that gave Florida its first lead of the game, 13-10 with 2:59 to play in the third. Another deep pass to Thompson drew a pass-interference penalty and set up Jeff Demps' 10-yard TD run that tied the game at 20 midway through the fourth.

Tebow put Florida in position for the game-winner with a 14-play drive that took almost all the time off the clock.

"When it came down to it, you knew we were going to play with a little bit more heart and our guys were going to dig a little bit deeper, and they did," Tebow said.

The Razorbacks (3-3, 1-3) entered the game with the league's worst-rated defense. But they hardly looked the part Saturday. They stuffed Florida's high-powered running game, sacked Tebow six times and forced the Gators into several mistakes.

"I think somebody held onto the ball too long," Meyer said, putting much of the blame on his star player. "Six sacks and four turnovers? I'm going to get him in here and start yelling at him. We've got to get that fixed immediately."

A week after knocking off Auburn, Arkansas showed it's making fast progress under second-year coach Bobby Petrino.

Ryan Mallett threw for 224 yards, Dennis Johnson ran for 107 in place of injured starter Michael Smith (hamstring) and Greg Childs caught four passes for 135 yards.

Arkansas made a few costly mistakes, though.

Mallett overthrew fullback Van Stumon, who was wide open in the end zone, and Arkansas settled for a field goal that tied it at 13 late in the third. Then Alex Tejada yanked a 38-yard field goal with 3:08 remaining that would have put his team ahead.

"We played our hearts out all night," defensive end Jake Bequette said. "It hurts. Right there with No. 1 team in the nation. Take the positives from this: Can play anyone, anywhere, anytime."

Added Mallett: "We had a chance to win against the No. 1 team in the country and we couldn't pull it out."

Tebow did. The finish, though, probably won't let Florida forget the start.

The Gators had three turnovers on consecutive possessions in the first half, including two fumbles by Tebow and another by tight end Aaron Hernandez.

"The worst first half we've ever play," Meyer said. "I'm not pleased with where we're at. But I understand the game and understand where we're at."

Defense kept the Gators close. They sacked Mallett four times and pressured him often enough that he completed just 12 of 27 passes. They did it without three starters, too.

Star linebacker Brandon Spikes, who entered the game with a team-high 32 tackles and three sacks, injured his left groin early in the game and did not return. Defensive tackles Lawrence Marsh (ankle) and Jaye Howard (knee) didn't even suit up.

"I don't think they really missed a step," Mallett said. "We just have a good offense. You've got to give us a little credit. They've never seen an offense like ours all year and probably won't for the rest of the year.

Florida quarterback Tim Tebow (15) scrambles past Arkansas cornerback Andru Stewart for a first down during the first half of an NCAA college football game in Gainesville, Fla., Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009.

AP

Nowitzki leads Mavs past depleted Cavaliers

DALLAS (AP)—Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 points before sitting out the final quarter and the Dallas Mavericks beat the short-handed Cleveland Cavaliers 93-82 on Saturday night.

Cavaliers coach Mike Brown held out starters LeBron James, Shaquille O'Neal and Mo Williams on the second night of back-to-back preseason games after losing at San Antonio on Friday.

Several Cavaliers have had the flu over the past week, including James, but Brown said the rest was planned long ago. Kris Humphries added 12 points and nine rebounds for the Mavericks (4-1).

Jamario Moon had 18 points and 10 boards for the Cavaliers (3-3). Jawad Williams scored 13 points. Dallas was leading 78-76 with 7:28 left when Humphries connected on a 20-footer to ignite a 10-0 spurt. Rookie Rodrigue Beaubois and J.J. Barea completed the run with 3-pointers on consecutive possessions.

J.J. Hickson and Andre Barrett are not with the Cavs as they complete their recovery from the flu, but both are expected to be available for Tuesday night's rematch against the Mavericks in Pittsburgh. Brown said James, O'Neal and Mo Williams will play Tuesday night.

Cleveland's Delonte West missed the game while attending to a personal matter, Andersen Varejao sat out with flulike symptoms and Leon Powe has yet to play in the preseason after left knee surgery.

Dallas is still without projected starters Josh Howard and Shawn Marion. Howard is recovering from offseason left ankle surgery and Marion is out with a recurring right calf strain.

Tim Thomas, penciled in as a top reserve for the Mavericks, also is sidelined after right knee surgery.

AP

Dallas Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki clutches his fist after making a basket during the first quarter of a preseason NBA basketball game against the Cleveland Cavaliers in Dallas, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009.

NBA BRIEFS

Van Gundy fined for ref criticism

NEW YORK (AP)—The Orlando Magic and coach Stan Van Gundy have been fined $35,000 each for his criticism of referees earlier in the week. The fines were announced Friday, a day after Van Gundy's comments about the replacement officials were published. Van Gundy became the third coach in three days to be fined. The Charlotte Bobcats and coach Larry Brown were each fined $60,000 on Wednesday for Brown's verbal abuse of officials and refusal to leave the court in timely manner after he was ejected during a preseason game, and his subsequent postgame criticism. Memphis Grizzlies coach Lionel Hollins was also penalized $25,000 on Wednesday for his critical comments.

Blazers sign second-round pick Mills

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Portland Trail Blazers have signed second-round draft pick Patrick Mills and exercised options on center Greg Oden, forwards Nicolas Batum and Rudy Fernandez and guard Jerryd Bayless.The Blazers exercised the team's fourth-year option on Oden, and their three-year option on the others. That will keep all players under contract through next season. Oden was the No. 1 overall draft pick and Fernandez was acquired via trade in the 2007 draft. Batum and Bayless were acquired via trades in the 2008 draft.

Baylor needs records for suit vs. Clips

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge says former Los Angeles Clippers general manager Elgin Baylor must provide the Clippers with documents that supports his discrimination lawsuit against the team.A Los Angeles judge on Friday gave Baylor's attorneys two weeks to hand over the information. The 75-year-old Hall of Famer was general manager of the Clippers for 22 years before leaving last fall. The team said he resigned, but Baylor, who's black, claimed he was forced out by age and racial discrimination. In February, he sued the team, owner Donald Sterling and the NBA. Baylor, considered one of basketball's greatest players, was with the Los Angeles Lakers for 14 years and briefly coached the New Orleans Jazz. He joined the Clippers in 1986.

Wizards' Jamison out for preseason

WASHINGTON (AP)—Wizards forward Antawn Jamison will miss the rest of the team's exhibition games with a right shoulder injury. Jamison will be re-evaluated next week, after the swelling goes down. He had an MRI exam Thursday, a day after getting hurt while trying to block a shot by Zydrunas Ilgauskas in Washington's 109-104 preseason victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers. The Wizards have preseason games left against Atlanta, Philadelphia and Chicago. They open the regular season Oct. 27 at Dallas. Jamison is a two-time All-Star who led the Wizards in scoring average last season at 22.2 points. Washington lost starters Gilbert Arenas(notes), Brendan Haywood(notes) and DeShawn Stevenson(notes) to injuries for long stretches and finished 19-63.

Rodriguez, Yankees edge Angels on error in 13th

NEWYORK (AP)—Alex Rodriguez is turning this postseason into his personal showcase.

Coming through under pressure once again, Rodriguez hit a tying homer in the 11th inning and the New York Yankees edged the Los Angeles Angels 4-3 Saturday night on Maicer Izturis' throwing error in the 13th for a 2-0 lead in the AL championship series.

After the rain came and went on another chilly night, New York pulled out its latest late-inning thriller and remained unbeaten in this year's playoffs. The game ended at 1:07 a.m. when Izturis threw away Melky Cabrera's grounder to second base.

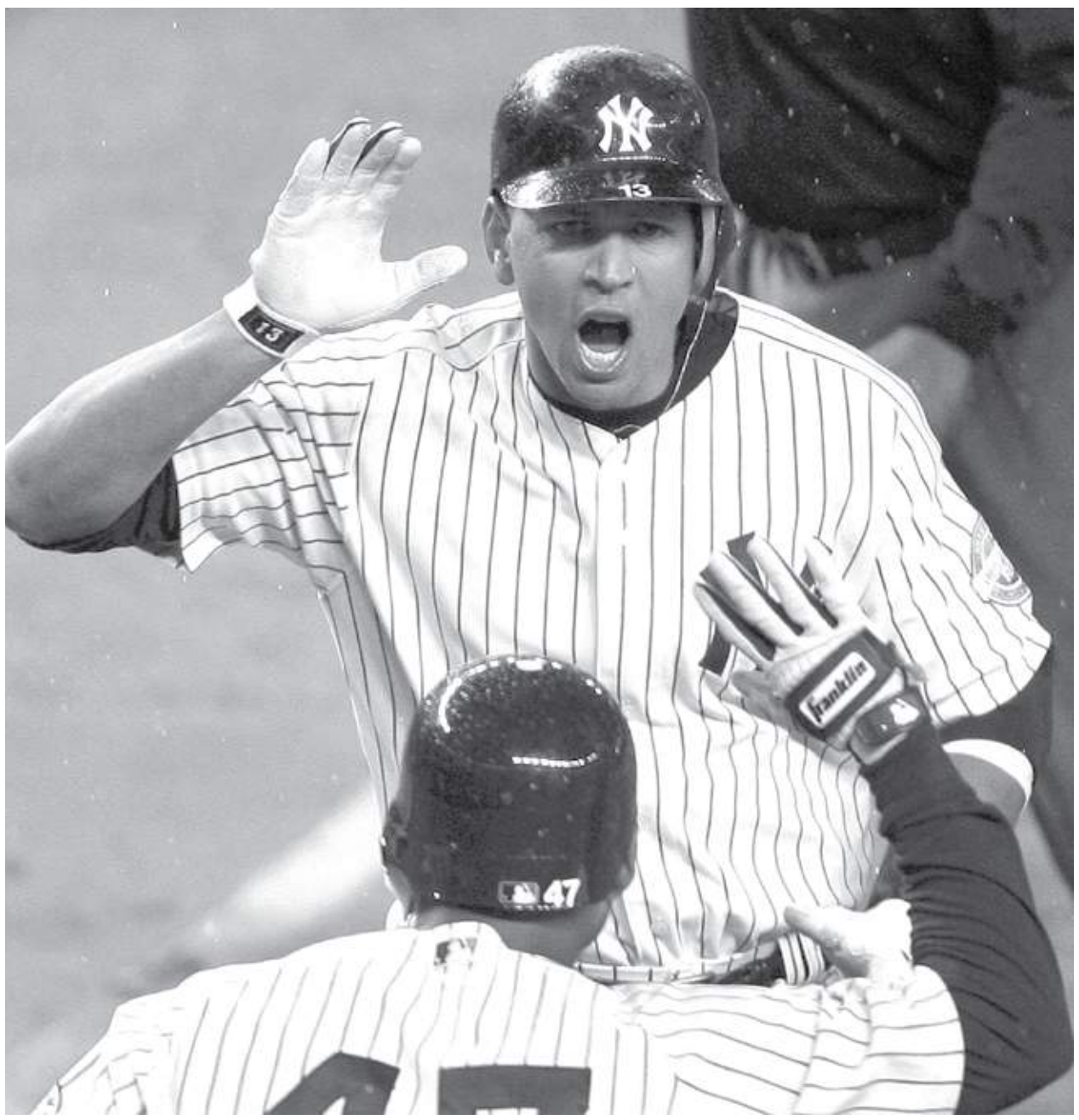
Pinch-hitter Jerry Hairston Jr. opened the 13th with a single off losing pitcher Ervin Santana in his first postseason at-bat. Brett Gardner sacrificed and Robinson Cano was intentionally walked as the crowd chanted "Melky! Melky!"

Cabrera hit a bouncer in the hole between first and second, and Izturis curiously tried to throw back across his body to get the force at second. The low throw skipped past shortstop Erick Aybar and rolled behind third, where Chone Figgins tried to pick it up.

Figgins fumbled the ball and Hairston, who had slowed up, sped home and slid in with the winning run. It marked another sloppy performance by the Angels, and finished a game that lasted 5 hours, 10 minutes.

The Yankees poured out of the dugout to celebrate, knocking over Hairston behind the plate.

Moments later, he took a pie in the face from starter A.J. Burnett, which has become a fan-favorite tradition for the Yankees after walk-off wins this year. They led the majors with 15 such victories and have added two in the playoffs—the Yankees are 5-0, including a first-round sweep over Minnesota in which Rodriguez went 5 for 11 with two home runs.



AP

New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez celebrates with teammate Freddy Guzman after hitting a solo home run against Los Angeles Angels' Brian Fuentes during the 11th inning of Game 2 of the American League Championship baseball series Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, in New York.

Rodriguez saved them in this victory, hitting a leadoff shot against major league saves leader Brian Fuentes to keep the game in extra innings.

After a travel day, the best-of-seven series shifts to Anaheim, Calif., for Game 3 on Monday. Jered Weaver is scheduled to pitch for the Angels against Andy Pettitte, with a forecast of 73 degrees and partly cloudy skies.

The warm weather will allow players to ditch the ski masks and hoods some have sported under their baseball caps in New York. It was 47 degrees at gametime, 2 degrees warmer than Friday night, with 15 mph winds gusting to 23 mph.

Most of the crowd of 49,922 was still around for the finish, though many were huddled in bright ponchos under the overhangs.

It was the longest postseason game by innings since Houston beat Atlanta 7-6 in 18 innings on Oct. 9, 2005.

The Angels, normally sound on fundamentals, have been betrayed by their defense in this series.

Chone Figgins gave Los Angeles a short-lived 3-2 lead with an RBI single in the 11th off Alfredo Aceves, his first hit in 19 at-bats this postseason.

With rain falling as the clock ticked past midnight, Figgins dumped a looper into left field that scored Gary Matthews Jr. from second. Matthews, who entered in the eighth as a pinch hitter, had drawn a leadoff walk and moved to second on a sacrifice.

Fuentes came on to try and close it out, but Rodriguez led off and lined an 0-2 pitch into the front-row of right-field seats, sending the crowd of 49,922 into a frenzy.

Utley's erratic throws hurting Phillies

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Chase Utley makes two costly throwing errors, and suddenly he's being mentioned with Steve Sax and Chuck Knoblauch.

Utley's fielding gaffes were the talk of the town when the Philadelphia Phillies returned home Saturday after splitting the first two games of the NL championship series at Los Angeles.

Game 3 is Sunday night in soggy Philadelphia, weather permitting. The forecast calls for showers all day and it's expected to be 42 degrees at game time. Cliff Lee starts for the Phillies against Hiroki Kuroda.

The weather will make it tough to grip the ball and make accurate throws. Utley, a four-time All-Star second baseman, had enough problems throwing to first in sunny L.A. The Phillies overcame his blunder in Game 1, but it hurt them on Friday.

Trailing 1-0, the Dodgers got their first two runners on in the bottom of the eighth. After failing to put down a sacrifice, Russell Martin then hit a sharp grounder to third baseman Pedro Feliz. It was a routine double-play ball except Utley's relay throw sailed wide of first. Instead of two outs and a runner on third, the Dodgers had a run and one out. They went on to score again and held on for a 2-1 victory.

Utley typically wasn't around to speak to reporters during Saturday's one-hour, open clubhouse session. But manager Charlie Manuel and others had his back.

"I'm sure nobody in Philadelphia hates that more than Chase, but at the same time, he'll correct it," Manuel said. "I have all the faith in the world in him as far as that goes. That's going to happen to anybody."

Ronnie Belliard was bearing down on Utley and slid hard into second, possibly forcing him to rush his throw. Belliard, a fellow second baseman, sympathized with Utley.

"It's nothing mental," Belliard said. "He's a good second baseman. It's a difficult situation to turn a double play like that. You have to forget about it and do your job."

In the series opener Thursday night, Utley made a similarly poor throw on what should have been an inning-ending, double-play grounder hit by Andre Ethier in the fifth inning. Phillies pitcher Cole Hamels was visibly upset that shortstop Jimmy Rollins and Utley couldn't make the turn. Manny Ramirez followed with a two-run homer that cut Philadelphia's lead to 5-4, but the Phillies won 8-6.

Rollins, a Gold Glove winner the last two years, was slow to shuffle the ball and that may have thrown off Utley's timing.

"Looked like he had trouble gripping the ball, really taking it out of his glove," Manuel said of Utley. "Looked like he had trouble getting a hold of it."

In between the two errors, Utley made three iffy throws on routine grounders. All three resulted in outs, but his erratic tosses suggest this could be more than a simple case of two bad throws under difficult circumstances in clutch spots.

Dodgers third base coach Larry Bowa, who managed Utley when he first came up in Philadelphia, doesn't buy it.

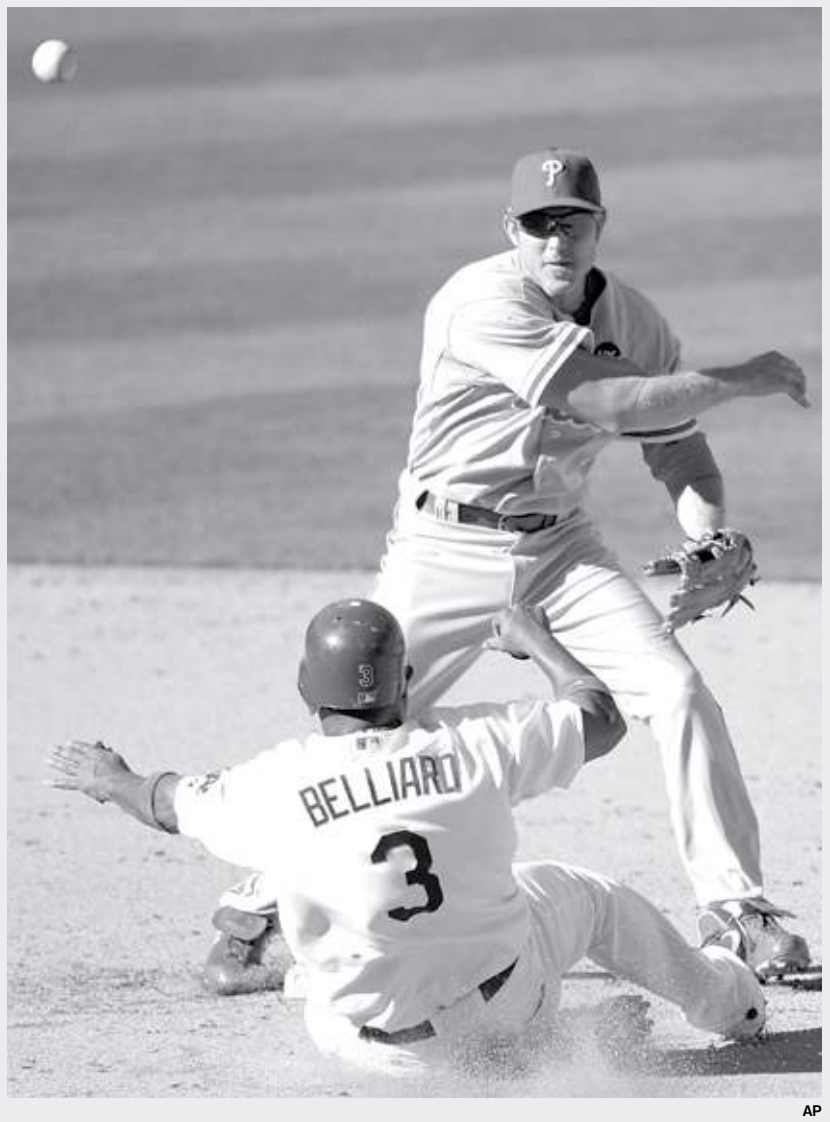
"No, no, no," Bowa said when asked if Utley's issues are comparable to Sax and Knoblauch. "I don't think it's a problem at all. He rushed two throws. It was coincidental that he did it two games in a row."

Sax, the NL Rookie of the Year with the Dodgers in 1982, inexplicably stopped being able to make routine throws to first in his sophomore season. Sax committed 30 errors that season, many on errant tosses.

Knoblauch began experiencing the same problem shortly after joining the New York Yankees in 1999. A former Gold Glove winner with Minnesota in 1997, Knoblauch was moved to the outfield because he never regained his ability to throw to first.

Dodgers manager Joe Torre managed Knoblauch in New York. He's not ready to put Utley in that category.

"I don't think it's an issue," Torre said. "If I was Charlie, I wouldn't be concerned about him. He's too tough a kid and he's too good of a player. Stuff like that happens. Sometimes there's no rhyme or reason why it happens, but the nature of the game is what it is."



AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Ronnie Belliard slides into second as Philadelphia Phillies' Chase Utley (26) makes a throwing error to first on an attempted double play during the eighth inning of Game 2 of the National League Championship baseball series Friday, Oct. 16, 2009, in Los Angeles.

Roach predicts early KO victory for Pacquiao

BOXING

MANILA, Philippines—Three-time Trainer of the Year Freddie Roach predicted Filipino boxing sensation Manny Pacquiao will win his seventh title when he collides with World Boxing Organization (WBO) welterweight champion Miguel Cotto next month.

Pacquiao and Cotto will be testing each other's mettle in a blockbuster title bout on November 14 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"Manny has been doing excellent work in his training here. We are confident we could finish the fight early to prevent Cotto from getting his second wind." Roach stressed.

In his latest sparring session late Thursday afternoon, the 30-year-old world champion floored undefeated superwelterweight contender Shawn Porter in the second round of their four-round blistering encounter with a solid left straight to the latter's jaw.

Pacquiao

After knocking down Porter, Pacquiao also virtually mauled two-time world lightweight champion Jose Luis Castillo of Mexico as he displayed awesome speed and power.

Pacquiao is on his fourth week of rigid training in this mountain resort city in preparation for the Cotto fight. Team Pacquiao will be breaking camp here on October 23 in order to catch the late evening flight for Los Angeles the following day where he will be entering the Wild Card gym on October 26 for the final stage of his training.

"Manny is nearing his peak form. We are now regulating his training regimen so that he could maintain his excellent performance in the ring until the fight. We already got our game going with the help of his supportive sparring partners," Roach added.

While admitting that Typhoon Pepeng had a slight effect on the pound for pound king's roadwork, Roach claimed they are now taking advantage of the good weather to get back lost time although the gym work is way ahead of schedule.

Earlier, Roach predicted Pacquiao will knock out Cotto in either the eighth or ninth round but said the champion's performance in recent days shows that there will be an early knockout victory for his favorite ward.

Since Cotto is known to be able to get his second wind in the later part of his previous fights, the American trainer claimed Pacquiao will be working aggressively in the early rounds in order to catch the champion off balanced to be assured of a victory.

Cotto's training heats up

FLORIDA—Although Miguel Cotto was scarcely 15 minutes into his nearly two-hour workout at the Fight Factory gymnasium on a sweltering afternoon, sweat already was glistening over his chiseled upper torso, and his saturated, synthetic, black pants clung to his legs like shrink wrap.

The WBO champion is only four weeks into what will be a nearly three-month training regimen, here in Florida, an exercise that is taking place outside of his native Puerto Rico for only the second time in his career.

The 28-year-old Cotto is preparing for a Nov. 14 defense of his welterweight (147 pounds) crown against Filipino sensation, Manny Pacquiao (49-3-2, 37 KOs) at a catch-weight of 145 pounds at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"No matter where I'm training, I'm always doing my best—on the track and in the gym, everywhere. But the last fight with Joshua Clottey, and this one, they're very important in my career. You have to stay away from any kind of distractions, you know?" said Cotto, staring up at reporters from a seated position on the black steps leading into a large boxing ring.

"Puerto Rico is my country, and I live there. And a lot of distractions come to me when I'm there," said Cotto, whose full video interview can be seen by clicking here. "I'm here in Tampa just for the things that you have to do in my training camp—training, rest, training and rest. I'm here doing my work, and you will see the results on the night of Nov. 14."

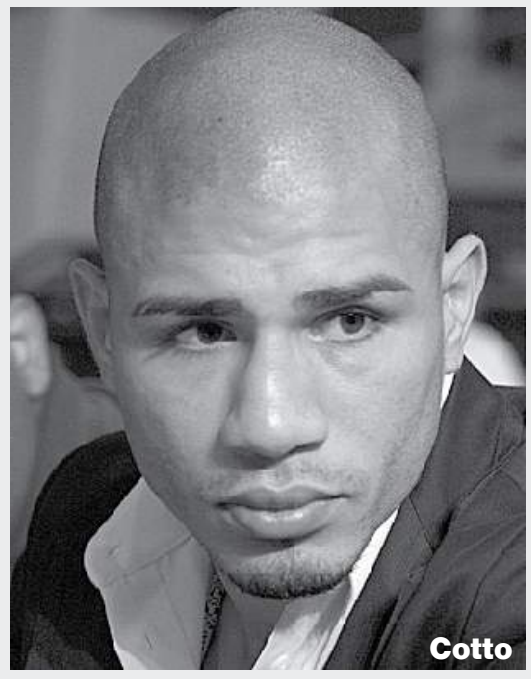
Tuesday's workout was comprised of shadowboxing, working the heavy bag and jumping rope, as well as general calisthenics that included abdominal work.

"I'm working for everything I think he's going to do, and I'm pretty sure that we're not going to have any problems the night of the fight," said Cotto, adding that he will have put in three months of work in preparation for Pacquiao.

"I had a lot of trouble making the weight when I was a champion at 140, so if we thought we would have trouble making 145 pounds, we wouldn't have taken the fight," said Cotto, who weighed around 158. "Trust me, I'm in my best shape ever."

Cotto is coming off of June's 12-round, split-decision victory over Bronx resident Clottey (35-3, 20 KOs) of Ghana, during which the Caguas, Puerto Rico, native was cheered on by the partisan crowd's chants of "Cotto, Cotto" as he defended his crown at New York's Madison Square Garden.

With his victory before the 17,734 mostly Puerto Rican fans—his sixth fight without a loss at The Garden — Cotto rose to 34-1 with 27 knockouts, proving that he could bounce back from the vicious beating that he took during an 11th-round knockout loss to Mexican Antonio Margarito in July of 2008.



Cotto

KABIRIEL

From Page 28

zuki were the Top 2 finishers in the short course after submitting 16:33 and 19:10, respectively.

A brief shower came before the fun run kicked off at 7am, but this did not prevent the 111 runners from taking part in the fundraiser. There were even a few runners who showed up a few minutes after the race had started.

Rain began to fall again after the Top 3 placers in the men's division and Kindel had already crossed the finished line. Cho and Daly were soaked when it was their turn to reach the finish line. A few more runners completed the race while it was still raining, while the bulk of the finishers came in with their clothes already dry, as the rain already stopped by 8pm.

Prizes were awarded to the Top 3 finishers in the men's and women's divisions, the first two placers in the short course, and the top kid finisher in the long course. Raffle prizes were also given during the awards ceremony.

SIS' Mili Saiki thanked all participants for the success of the ninth edition of the fun run.

Majority of the participants were SIS students, who brought their parents and siblings for the race. Other participants were regular fixture in running events on Saipan.

Saiki said they missed a few runners this year, as some of them are in Guam for a tournament. One of them is last year's women's top finisher Mieko Carey, who ruled the 2008 edition of the event with a time of 21:23.

Meanwhile, Saiki thanked the following sponsor of the fun run: Deloitte, DFS Galleria, Pacific Islands Club, PTI, Tropical Blend Spa, Island Apparel, AIC, The Water Company, Marianas Eye Institute, Smile Marianas, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Hawaiian Rock Products.

KOREAN

From Page 28

combining for a gross 74. Onoue had a 3-over par 39 on the front nine, while Yoon finished the game strong with her 1-under par 35. The duo recorded a handicap of 2.4.

Mother and daughter Noriko and Yuko Togawa also had a gross 74, but settled for second place as they had a 0 handicap thus ended up with the net score of 74. Noriko played better with her 1-under par 35, while Yuko drilled a 3-over par 39.

Completing the Top 3 were Terry Tudela and Shirley Jones, who submitted a 6-over 40 and 5-over 39, respectively, for a gross 79. Subracting their 4.8 handicap, Jones and Tudela had a net 74.2.

The two other tandems in the ladies division were Aya Matsumoto and Lorraine Babauta (net 74.6) and Jeon Me Ae and YS Jeong (76.2).

The Top 3 placers in each division received cash prizes. The champion took home $500, $300 for second, and $200 for third.

The fundraiser drew more than 50 pairs. Proceeds, which include the more than $2,000 worth of tickets sold during the raffle drawing, will be used in Chamber's educational endeavors.

CPA

From Page 28

Tom Diaz and Pangelinan tried to bring CHC back in the game in the third period with their three-point shooting, but Cloud and Ed Diaz were there to keep CPA-Accounting's distance. Cloud and Ed Diaz chipped in eight points apiece in the third period to pad CPA-Accounting lead, 62-42.

Cloud was still unstoppable in the fourth period and even Tom Diaz and Pangelinan's successive triples in the final canto could not prevent Cloud and company from posting a big winning margin.

Cloud finished with a game-high 29 points, while Ed Diaz and Schuler tallied 19 and 18 markers, respectively. Camacho contributed 14, while Barrie Maratita nailed nine.

Tom Diaz paced CHC with 21 points. Pangelinan added 16, but he was limited to one triple each in the second and third periods when CPA-Accounting began pulling away.

With the victory, CPA-Accounting has yet to taste defeat for more than a month. CPA-Accounting's last loss was against IT&E, 56-58, on Sept. 2. Since then, CPA-Accounting won against Docomo, DCCA, Bank of Guam, and Customs.

CPA-Accounting 89 – Cloud 29, Diaz 19, Schuler 18, Camacho 14, Maratita 9.

CHC 58 – Diaz 21, Pangelinan 16, Siedler 8, Lisua 6, Fernandez 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-18, 41-25, 62-42, 89-57.

NMIVA

From Page 28

one of the 15 sports in the Micro Games calendar. Completing the list are baseball, lawn tennis, swimming, triathlon, athletics, basketball, Micro All-Around, outrigger canoe, spear-fishing, fast-pitch softball, table tennis, weightlifting, and wrestling. The multi-sports event will run from Aug. 1 to 10.

Besides looking for coaches, NMIVA is also expected to come up with the criteria for selecting players.

During NMASA's monthly meeting, NMIVA's Gabriel White said they have yet to come up with the selection process, as their main focus first will be to revive the indoor league. So far, beach volleyball is the only active event in NMIVA's calendar. The association is currently holding a 4-person beach volleyball league on the PIC sandcourt.

White added there are a lot of players interested in joining indoor events, but only a few are committed in the administrative part of handling tournaments. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

LOCAL SCORES

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	10	1
Hyatt	5	1
Tinian	4	1
MBI	5	4
Docomo	4	3
CHC	3	4
PSS	6	4
CPA	5	5
BOG	4	6
DCCA	3	6
Customs	1	4
ARFF	0	10

The Week in Sports

Rotary caging on hold, other leagues continue

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hardcourt action on Saipan was a bit slow last week not because of rain or other acts of nature, but due to human errors.

Games in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League were suspended last week as teams have yet to complete requirements for the 18-and-under caging.

Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands, which is sanctioning the league, said the youth caging will remain on hold until participating squads meet the event's requirements. These include submission of proofs of age eligibility and entrance fee, and wearing of proper uniforms. Teams can play despite an incomplete uniform, but shirts should be of the same color.

Some teams in the Rotary caging have complete uniforms, but sometimes there are still players suiting up for the game with a different uniform.

In the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League, which is also being played at the Ada gym, Mondays and Wednesday games did not push through due to miscommunication between organizers and teams representatives.

Teams that were supposed to play on Monday and Wednesday received e-mails regarding the cancellation of games at the Ada gym and they thought the inter-government-business league was included in the suspension.

Some teams in the inter-government-business league have yet to settle entrance fee, thus other squads assumed the league is also put on hold. However, after clarifications from league coordinators, action resumed Friday night with CPA-Accounting taking on Commonwealth Health Center in the first game and Tinian dueling CPA-ARFF in the second match.

Still in basketball, three more weeks will pass before action starts at the JP Centre Basketball Court, as organizers of the 2009 PILCOWA Basketball League decided to move the opening of the league from Oct. 25 to Nov. 8.

League coordinator Fando Muleta said the new opening date will give teams more time to prepare for the event and look for sponsors.

The league so far has lured four teams in the open division and eight squads in the masters category.

Cancellation of games was not an option for the 2009 PIC/Miller/Gatorade/Monster-NMIFA 4-Person Co-Ed Beach Volleyball Fall League despite of teams having depleted lineups.

On Tuesday, Make It Bali made it to the win column after beating Special Delivery, Pwipwise went 4-0 after beating Just Do It, and Shogunai recovered from a loss with a 2-1 triumph over Git It.

On Thursday, a depleted Angamwas survived Manta Diver, Random Radical topped a short-handed O-No, and Chenutt Crew outclassed Fisingan.

In tennis, nine started the week on a winning note after ruling their respective division in the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge.

Youth netter Christian Miller was a last-minute entry to the event, but became the biggest winner of the net-fest after prevailing in the men's 4.0 singles. Miller defeated Jang Dongik Wo in the finals, 8-6.

Other champions in the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge organized by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan instructor Peter Loyola were Lydia Tan,Vickie Izuka, Dan Wollak, Daniel Park, Matthew Lopez, Amami Sakano, Tony Kim, and Grace Kim.

Games in the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge was played at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Over at Palms Resort pool, XTERRA World-bound Mieko Carey held a brief swim lesson attended by seven swimmers.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The game between Runnin' Rebels and Chalan Kanoa Saints on Oct. 7 was the last match completed in the Rotary caging, as the youth event was put on hold after some teams failed to meet the league's requirements.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge organizer Peter Loyola, left, poses with the Top 3 placers in the women's 4.0 singles, champion Lydia Tan, runner-up Sakiko Eda, and third placer Jeane Bracken.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CPA-Accounting's Jeff Cloud drives to the baseline during their game against CHC in the resumption of action in the inter-government-business caging on Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jang Dongik Wo returns to Christian Miller during their title match in the men's 4.0 singles division of the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts on Monday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Angamwas' Bruce Berline serves during one of their games in the NMIVA 4-person fall league on the PIC sandcourt.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mieko Carey demonstrates swim stroke techniques during a short swim lesson at the Palms Resort pool on Oct. 10.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Christian Miller returns to Jang Dongik Wo during their title match in the men's 4.0 singles division of the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts on Monday.

Rotary caging on hold, other leagues continue

Hardcourt action on Saipan was a bit slow last week not because of rain or other acts of nature, but due to human errors.

27

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Rodriguez, Yankees edge Angels

Coming through under pressure once again, Rodriguez hit a tying homer in the 11th inning and the New York Yankees edged the Los Angeles Angels 4-3 Saturday night on Maicer Izturis' throwing error in the 13th for a 2-0 lead in the AL championship series.

25

Kabiriel, Kindel rule SIS Fun Run

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the 9th Annual Saipan International School 5K Fun Run sprint from the starting line in Banzai Cliff on Saturday morning.

Kabiriel

Kindel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Suzy Kindel topped the 9th Annual Saipan International School 5K Fun Run held in Marpi on Saturday morning.

Kabiriel, also known as the "Road Runner Bunny," is a repeat champion in the annual event, as he also won last year. He completed the race that started and ended in Banzai Cliff in 19 minutes and 41 seconds, failing to eclipse his 2008 time of 19:16. Kabiriel previously held the course record in the SIS-led event at 18:28 before Eli Torgeson shattered it in 2007 with a time of 16:40.

After finishing the race first, Kabiriel left Marpi quickly, as he had to prepare for a flight to Guam for the 2009 Guam Gatorade Ko'ko' Road Race.

Kabiriel was not able to see Suzy Kindel crossed the finish line first among the female participants in the race. Kindel timed in at 24:19 to beat Tatiana Cho (27:36) and Melanie Daly (27:54).

In the men's division, Mike Brown was runner-up to Kabiriel, as the former timed in at 19:51. Kam Bae Ji came in third place with a time of 20:43.

Michael Jones was the first kid finisher in the long course with a time of 57:59, while Edward Cho and Lennosuke Su-

See KABIRIEL on Page 26

NMIVA looking for coaches in Micro Games

Northern Marianas Volleyball Association is looking for coaches for teams that will represent the CNMI in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

NMIVA is hoping to send teams in the indoor and beach volleyball competitions in Palau next year.

"NMIVA is asking all FIVB or OZVA credentialed volleyball coaches wishing to be considered for coaching positions for the 2010 Micro Games in Palau, for both indoor and beach volleyball, to submit their interest in writing by no later than 5pm on October 26, 2009," stated in the NMIVA release.

"Letters of interest should include applicant's coaching history and a copy of applicant's passport's photopage as well as a copy of applicant's coaching certificate or license. Letters and required attachments can be mailed to P.O. Box 502476, Saipan, MP, 96950 or emailed to nmivolleyball@gmail.com; or faxed to (670) 234–9537, attention to NMIVA Board of Directors," the release added.

Volleyball, indoor and beach, is

See NMIVA on Page 26

Korean golfers dominate Chamber tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Paul Yu, left, and Jong Won Lee, pose for the camera during the awards ceremony for the 2nd Annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament on Saturday at The Range of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The Korean tandem of Jong Won Lee and Paul Yu led the winners in the 2nd Annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament.

Jong and Yu ruled the low gross division of two-person scramble tournament played on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Saturday after carding a combined score of 9-under par 63. Jong shot a 5-under par 31 on the front nine, while Yu tallied a 4-under par 32 on the back.

The Jong-Yu pair defeated their fellow Korean players Chae Yi and Park Jun, who settled for second place after shooting a 7-under par 65. Chae logged a 3-under par 33 in the first nine holes, while Park played a bit better in the last nine holes with his 4-under par 32.

Joji Taguchi and a certain Mr. Nakamura was three strokes off the lead and settled for third place. Taguchi drilled a 2-under par 34 on the front nine, while Nakamura fired a 4-under par 32 for a combined gross score of 6-under par 66.

In the low net category, another Korean tandem prevailed with Bae Young Man and Kim Youn scoring a net 68.80. Bae and Kim had identical scores of 32 and emerged with the lowest net after subtracting their handicap of - 4.80.

Ray Aldan and Juan Lizama had a 7.20 handicap and ended up with a net score of 69.80 to gain the runner-up prize. Aldan recorded a 3-over par 39 on the front nine, while Lizama posted a 2-over par 38.

Ralph Yumul teamed up with last year's low gross third placer Ben Duenas and the duo finished third with a net of 70.40. The pair shared a - 2.40 handicap and also tallied identical gross scores of 2-under par 34.

In the ladies low gross division, Shiori Onoue joined forces with 11-year-old Korean golfer KJ Yoon to beat four other teams.

Onoue and Yoon had a net 71.6 after

See KOREAN on Page 26

CPA-Accounting extends streak to five

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CPA-Accounting's Chris Camacho drives and draws a foul against CHC's Ben Lisua during their game in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The streaking CPA-Accounting cruised to its fifth win in a row after routing Commonwealth Health Center, 89-57, in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The CPA-Accounting-CHC tiff was the first game played in the inter-government-business caging after three play dates were called off due to scheduling problems and miscommunication.

When action in the 12-team field resumed, CPA-Accounting was still in form, while CHC was sluggish, allowing the former to nail an easy victory.

CHC was off for several weeks as its scheduled return on Oct. 9 against Customs was reset. The Tom Diaz-led CHC last played on Sept. 23, losing to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, 81-96.

CPA last played on Oct. 7 against Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighters and won convincingly, 86-48, for its fourth consecutive win. CPA-Accounting continued its streak after recovering from a slow first quarter and getting double figures from four players.

Tom Diaz fired three early triples, while hotshot Edgar Pangelinan scored CHC's first five points to give the team an 18-16 lead at the end of the first quarter. That was the last time CHC was in the driver's seat, as things started falling apart for the team in the second period.

CPA-Accounting held CHC to seven points in the second canto, while the quartet of Ed Diaz, Kirk Schuler, Chris Camacho, and Jeff Cloud exploded for 25 markers to take a 41-25 halftime lead.

See CPA on Page 26